

THE INFORMER

A monthly publication of the Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce

January 2014 Volume 21, No. 1

ON THE COVER

Lancaster Chamber Names
Northwood University President
Dr. Kevin G. Fegan
2013 Person of the Year in the BSW

Save The Date

Hon. Marcus Knight To Moderate
State of the City Address
at Lancaster Chamber Luncheon

PLATINUM SPONSOR



Thursday, January 9, 2014

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Cost

\$20 Chamber Members
\$35 Non-Chamber Members

Location

Lancaster Recreation Center - Grand Hall
1700 Veterans Memorial Parkway
Lancaster, Texas 75134

RSVP & More Information

Lauren Grady Johnson
v: 972.227.2579
e: chamber@LancasterTX.org

Inside The Issue

President's Welcome
Membership Events
Chamber Leadership
Chamber Activities
Political & Social Issues
Career Development
Chamber Committees
Professionals On The Move
Much, much MORE!

Lancaster Area
Chamber
of Commerce
1st Annual

40 UNDER FORTY
Awards Program
January 24 Deadline
Call 972.227.2579

Destination Lancaster...

EAT

SHOP

PLAY

STAY

Here's To Your Success

Greetings Fellow Chamber and Friends,

Let me start by saying Happy New Year and THANK YOU! We have grown in great part due to all your support, commitment and dedication to the Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce and the city of Lancaster. As your 2014 Chair, it is my job to ensure that the Lancaster business community continues to thrive in the region.

And the future looks bright. Since 2013, the Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce has increased its membership! This is a wonderful indicator that businesses and economic activity are flourishing.

This year, in addition to continuing our events and seminars that help you network, learn more, and develop your leadership and empowerment skills, we are continuing a series of educational programs and networking opportunities. These are comprised of our 40 Under Forty, Bowl-a-Thon, and New Year and Membership Appreciation Reception, all firsts in the chamber's history. We are also underway with planning our annual Gala and Auction, Golf Tournament, and Mayor Marcus Knight's reception befitting FAMU and The Tom Joyner Foundation. Stay tuned, as you will hear more about these exciting initiatives in the coming months.



Kenneth Govan
ONCOR
Chair, 2014 Board of Directors
Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce

As we move forward, I invite you to experience more of what the Chamber has to offer.

Engage with us, volunteer with us, and support us—whether it be your time, talent or treasure. Our ultimate goal for you is economic success. No matter where you are in business or your professional development, we want to meet you at that place and help you get to the next level.

I wish you all the best in 2014, and please don't hesitate to tell us how we can be of additional service and support to you.

Kenneth Govan
Chair, 2014 Board of Directors
Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce

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"Editorial guidelines are available upon request. **Contact US** at the Chamber today for more information."

contents & special features

On The Cover

State of the City Address at the Chamber Luncheon
Featuring the Hon. Marcus Knight, Mayor
Lancaster Recreation Center-Grand Hall at 11:30 AM

Cover Story

Dr. Kevin Fegan Named Chamber
2013 Person of the Year in the Best Southwest

Mayor Knight Hosts Jazz Reception
In Honor of FAMU and The Tom Joyner Foundation

Elevate Your Practice
A Special Message from Dr. Tameela Horton with LISD

15 Stitches: Expect Victory
Jay Jackson, CPT, Explores The You From Within

Around & About The Best Southwest
Joe Johnson, IOM, Updates Us On The Region

- Chairman's Welcome
- President's Welcome
- Membership
- National Issues
- Chamber Committees
- Political & Social Issues
- Area Business Spotlights
- Career Development
- Professionals On The Move



Check www.LancasterTX.ORG Get updates on local and national issues

The Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce newsletter, The Informer, is published monthly and includes information on the latest area member benefits, regulatory and legislative developments, as well as the quality-improvement and leadership trends that are shaping and influencing the area business community. Readers get in-depth reporting on the issues and challenges facing business community leaders today. We make it our job to tell about the great things the Chamber and its Committees are doing every day to ensure the health of our community.

Editorial guidelines are available upon request. Advertising rates may be obtained by contacting chamber@LancasterTX.org. Advertisements do not imply endorsement by the Chamber. No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form without written permission of the publisher. Opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect official policy of the Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce.

If you have any news and updates you want to share with other members in an upcoming issue, please e-mail items in Microsoft Word or another compatible format to chamber@LancasterTX.org. If you have a graphic or picture that you'd like to include, please send it as a separate file.

www.LancasterTX.org
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103 N. Dallas Avenue Lancaster, TX 75146
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chamber@LancasterTX.org

In the past, The Informer has included some of the following types of information: **Advocacy Issues, Legislative Issues, Promotions, Educational Opportunities, Awards, Achievements, Committee Updates, Journal Submissions, Participations, Business Opportunities, Mentoring Experiences, Workshops.**

Next submission deadline:
5:00 p.m., Friday, January 24, 2014



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Chamber of Commerce
and Visitors Center



Showalter Group Honors U.S. Chamber's Grassroots Program

By Blair Latoff Holmes, U.S. Chamber of Commerce | December 16, 2013

The U.S. Chamber's Free Enterprise Network has been recognized as one of the nation's most innovative grassroots programs, receiving the Showalter Group's 2013 Political Involvement Program Innovation Award.

The award remains the nation's longest-running and most comprehensive assessment of political involvement program innovations.

"Our members are increasingly looking for innovative ways to advocate for policies that promote free enterprise and support economic growth," said Rob Engstrom, the U.S. Chamber's senior vice president of Political Affairs & Federation Relations. "We're honored to be recognized for this platform and its role in strengthening the collective voice of the business community in the political, legislative, and regulatory processes of government at the local, state, and federal levels."

Free Enterprise Network is a cost-free member benefit that focuses on equipping members with online advocacy resources that can be branded and customized to encourage political and legislative involvement amongst their own employ-

ees and members. These tools allow members to directly engage their stakeholders in key business issues which benefit the business community at large.

A custom-built platform that can be used across organizations allows members without the resources or staff power to run a state of the art grassroots program to engage their membership and employees on key issues.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world's largest business federation representing the interests of more than 3 million businesses of all sizes, sectors, and regions, as well as state and local chambers and industry associations.

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Educating future leaders today!



"Helping business owners think bigger about who they are and what they offer the world."



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STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS and LANCASTER CHAMBER LUNCHEON

THURSDAY | JANUARY 9, 2014 | 11:30 A.M.

MARCUS E. KNIGHT
Mayor
City of Lancaster

CAROL STRAIN-BURK
Councilmember
District I

STANLEY JAGLOWSKI
Councilmember
District II

MARCO MEJIA
Councilmember
District III

JAMES DANIELS
Mayor Pro Tem
District IV

LASHONJIA HARRIS
Councilmember
District V

NINA MORRIS
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
District VI

To request this publication in an alternate format or special assistance at the event, call 972.227.2579 or e-mail chamber@LancasterTX.org

Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center

103 N. Dallas Avenue | Lancaster, Texas 75146 | p: 972.227.2579 | f: 972.227.9555 | e: chamber@LancasterTX.org | w: www.LancasterTX.org

Mayor Marcus E. Knight and the City of Lancaster cordially invite you to attend the

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS and LANCASTER CHAMBER LUNCHEON

THURSDAY | JANUARY 9, 2014 | 11:30 A.M.
LANCASTER RECREATION CENTER - GRAND HALL

1700 Veterans Memorial Parkway
(inside Community Park)
Lancaster, Texas 75134



Complimentary parking at Lancaster Recreation Center

COST
\$20 Chamber Members | \$35 Non-Chamber Members

RSVP & MORE INFORMATION
972.227.2579 or chamber@LancasterTX.org

2014

Happy New Year

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SMALL BUSINESS



103 N. Dallas Avenue | Lancaster, Texas 75146 | 972.227.2579



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Dr. Kevin Fegan Named 2013 Person Of The Year In The Best Southwest

By The Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce

By Staff Writer, Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce

The Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce Northwood University President, Dr. Kevin Fegan, has been named the 2013 Person of the Year in the Best Southwest by the Lancaster Chamber. Dr. Fegan will be honored at the Chamber's annual awards luncheon on Thursday, February 13 at the Lancaster Recreation Center. He is the first person to win the newly-formed award.

The Person of the Year in the Best Southwest Award recognizes a professional who has made significant contributions to their local economy as leader, advocate, and mentor. Criteria include: building partnerships between educators and the business community; exceptional leadership; and demonstrated success in addressing the need of the region's labor market. Fegan was selected for this award because he and the chamber shares a common vision - the revitalization of our communities through education, innovation, and visionary thinking.

Dr. Fegan began his Northwood career as head women's volleyball coach in 1986 while teaching business education and coaching in the Midland Public Schools. He joined Northwood as a staff member in 1987 as Assistant Director of Academic Computer Services and an instructor on the Midland campus. In 1988, he became Registrar for the Midland campus and in 1990 was named Director of Registrar and Academic Counseling. In 1994, he left the traditional program and joined the staff of the Adult Degree Program serving as Associate Dean. In 1998, he was named Dean of the Adult Degree Program. In May 2000, he was elected Provost of the Adult Degree Program and an officer of the college by the Board of Trustees. In May of 2003, Dr. Fegan started in his current role as Provost of the Texas campus. Dr. Fegan was named a Northwood University Outstanding Alumni (1996), recognized by the International Who's Who of Professionals and Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities, and is a member of Delta

Mu Delta, Honorary Business Fraternity. Dr. Fegan holds a B.B.A. in marketing and management from Northwood University, an M.A. in educational administration from Central Michigan University and an Ed.D. in curriculum and instruction from Wayne State University.

The Chamber mission is To Actively Promote, Support and Attract Business to Better Serve the Greater Lancaster Area! The chamber provides all members with transparency, open lines of communication, collaboration, greater exposure, and much more. Through the engagement and generosity of supporters, the Chamber remains a reliable resource for collaboration with the regional business community by continuing to build and foster solid and productive relationships. Whether it is a business, corporate partner, sponsor, or volunteer, participation with the Chamber symbolizes everyone's true commitment as a stakeholder to the growth and development of the great city and regional businesses in Lancaster and beyond.

Discover **LANCASTER**
A CITY WHERE COMPANIES AND FAMILIES PROSPER AND THRIVE.
COME GROW WITH US!

Welcome to Lancaster and envision your future here, where fine dining, shopping and rich history combine with unique attractions to create a city with southwestern charm and world-class sophistication. It's easy to see why Lancaster is one of the most popular destinations in the Southwest to live and to visit. LancasterTX.org is the official guide for travelers and locals to discover all things Lancaster, Texas.

Located in the Southwest portion of Dallas County, Lancaster is home to the first District in Texas with K-12 STEM education, having the highest graduation rate of the Best Southwest member cities. Lancaster is also filled with major parks, culturally significant arts, and historic architecture. Take in the Lancaster Aquatic Center, Lancaster Regional Airport, Historic Town Square, senior center, innovative libraries, explore any of the four culture museums' exhibits, or relax and enjoy a slow picturesque tour of the city's historic homes. LancasterTX.org!

Bioscience & Health IT | Quality Education | Corporate Operations
Global Commerce | Supply Chain & Advanced Manufacturing | Technology

Destination Lancaster...
EAT SHOP PLAY STAY

Contact the Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center
P.O. Box 1100 | 101 N. Dallas Ave. | Lancaster, Texas 75146
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**WE BELIEVE
WE ENCOURAGE
WE INVEST
WE PROMOTE**

SMALL BUSINESS

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I AM FIRST
THE STORY BEHIND THE STORIES

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save water. save earth. save lancaster.

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Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce Presents
2nd Saturdays on the Historic Town Square
100 N. Dallas Ave. // Lancaster, TX 75146

Arts. Culture. Life!

FOR MORE INFO & REGISTRATION
972.227.2579 or chamber@LancasterTX.org

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WHY WILL I JOIN THE CHAMBER?

GIVE . INSPIRE . PROVIDE . FACILITATE . ENCOURAGE . SUCCEED

At the Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce,

We are forging ahead in community and business support. Our membership luncheons are held each month with informative and educational programs. We host NCA5 evening events giving local businesses networking opportunities. We have quarterly meetings of the Manufacturers and Logistics Roundtable, and monthly meetings of the Small Business Council, called Better Business Breakfasts. Each year the Chamber hosts the annual State of the City address by our mayor. We also host a candidates forum for the community and businesses where candidates have an opportunity to meet constituents.

Lancaster is a very unique city in southern Dallas County. We have a regional airport, a municipal golf course, and a 155-year-old historic Town Square. We have the Lancaster Community Park with a recreation center and a library that is unparalleled in the whole metroplex. Lancaster also has Cedar Valley College, the University of North Texas at Dallas, Paul Quinn College, and Northwood University located in close proximity. These institutions of higher learning have consistently shown a willingness to offer services and support to citizens and businesses in our area. The Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce directors and staff hope that you find us useful as you make your business connections.

Lancaster Dallas DeSoto Duncanville Cedar Hill Glenn Heights Balch Springs Seagoville Ovilla Mesquite Waxahachie
Midlothian Highland Park Hutchins Grand Prairie University Park Irving Ennis Fort Worth Red Oak Oak Leaf Richardson

Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center

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**Contact The Informer Editorial Office
to submit your information:**

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Actively supporting, promoting and attracting business to better serve the greater Lancaster area.
Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce

2014 Board of Directors

- * **Kenneth Govan, Chair**
ONCOR
- * **Deylan Walker, Chair-Elect**
G Walker Group Renovation & Repair
- * **Stephanie Williamson, Past Chair**
DART Transit
- * **Stacey McDonald, Vice Chair**
Corner Stone Credit Union
- * **Sharon Brooks, Treasurer**
Traditional Healthcare Services
- Cheryl Adams**
Pattillo Insurance
- Ellen Clark**
Lancaster Education Foundation
- Kendra Codrington**
Home Depot
- Melissa Cothorn**
TownPlace Suites by Marriott DeSoto
- Daniel S. D'Amico**
Crescent Medical Center Lancaster
- Patricia Davis**
Cedar Valley College
- Evelina Echols-Sutton**
Methodist Charlton Medical Center
- Doug Hunt**
Access Self Storage

- Jay Jackson**
Take Charge Fitness Studio
- Hon. Valencia Nash**
Justice of the Peace 1 - 2
- Andria Ross**
Hilton Garden Inn Duncanville - Dallas
- Chef Carlos Whitfield**
Chef Carlos on the Square
- Dr. John Wong**
University of North Texas Dallas
- Sarah Zafarano**
Mote & Associates
- EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS**
- Hon. Marcus Knight**
Mayor, City of Lancaster
Knight Waste Services, Ltd.
- Opal Robertson**
City Manager, City of Lancaster
- Ed Brady**
Director of EDC, City of Lancaster
- Dr. Michael McFarland**
Superintendent of Schools, Lancaster ISD
- Charles Hatfield**
The Ellis County Press

* Denotes Members of Executive Committee

Destination Lancaster...

Creating powerful partnerships to unite and grow member businesses and the region.



2014 DIVISIONS

Membership

Ambassadors, Membership Events, Major Events, Networking Events

Visitors & Tourism

Tourism Events, Publicity

Education

(Evelina Echols-Sutton)
Texas Scholars, Scholarships, Partners in Education, Preparing Tigers for Work, Education Foundation, Bilingual Education, Money Matters

Business Affairs

Small Business Council, City Council, Economic Development, Best Southwest Partnership, BREP, Manufacturing/Logistics Roundtable



 **LancasterTX.org**
Chamber of Commerce
and Visitors Center

Contact The Chamber Office
For info and to submit information:

2014 Calendar of Events and Activities
Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce
P. O. Box 1100
103 N. Dallas Avenue | Lancaster, TX 75146
v: 972.227.2579 f: 972.227.9555
chamber@LancasterTX.org

Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center
Regional Networking Activities, Events &

2014 Chamber Happenings

Networking Events

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Various Times/Locations. Call Chamber for info

- **February 6** - Call Chamber for location
- **April 3** - Call Chamber for location
- **June 5** - Call Chamber for location
- **August 7** - Call Chamber for location
- **October 2** - Call Chamber for location
- **December 4** - Chamber Holiday Reception

5:00 - 8:00 PM

Various Times/Locations. Call Chamber for info

- **January 16** - Member Appreciation Reception
- **March 6** - BSW Chamber Area Networking
- **May 8** - BSW Chamber Area Networking
- **June 19** - BSW Chamber Area Networking
- **July 10** - No Networking Event
- **September 25** - BSW Chamber Area Networking
- **October 16** - BSW Chamber Area Networking

2nd Saturdays Monthly Events

Vendors | Shops | Restaurants | Games | & More
Historic Town Square | Main St. & Dallas Ave.

Jan 11 | Feb 8 | Mar 8 | Apr 12 | May 10
Jun 14 | Jul 12 | Aug 9 | Sep 13 | Oct 11
Nov 8 | Dec 6 & 13

April 12
(Includes Greater Dallas Bike Ride)

October 11
(Includes Fall Festival & Oktoberfest)

December - 13
(Includes 61st Annual Holiday Parade, Festival, and various city events for children)

Better Business Breakfasts

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM (New Time, Same Location)

Lancaster Chamber Office | 103 N. Dallas Avenue

- **January 24** - No Business Breakfast
- **February 28** - Call Chamber for topic
- **March 28** - Call Chamber for topic
- **April 25** - Call Chamber for topic
- **May 23** - Call Chamber for topic
- **June 27** - Call Chamber for topic
- **July 26** - No Business Breakfast
- **August 1, 8, 15, 22** - Best Southwest TGIF
- **September 26** - Call Chamber for topic
- **October 24** - Call Chamber for topic
- **November/December** - No Business Breakfast

Special Events

Thursday, January 16, 2014
New Year & Member Appreciation Reception

February 2014
Annual Back To Work Job Fair *Call chamber for info*
Annual Chamber Bowl-a-Thon *Call chamber for info*

Saturday, April 12, 2014
Miss Lancaster/Miss Teen Lancaster Pageant

Saturday, April 26, 2014
Annual Chamber Gala & Auction

Monday, October 13, 2014
Annual Lancaster Chamber Golf Tournament

December 4, 2014
Annual Chamber Holiday Reception

Monthly Luncheons

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Lancaster Rec. Cntr. | 1700 Vet. Memorial Pkwy

- **January 9** - Mayor State of the City
- **February 13** - Annual Chamber Awards
- **March 27** - BSW Luncheon - Economic Dev.
- **April 10** - Call Chamber for topic
- **May 29** - BSW Luncheon - Education Scholarships
- **June 12** - Call Chamber for topic
- **July** - No Luncheon
- **August 14** - Call Chamber for topic
- **September TBD** - BSW Luncheon - Legislation
- **October 9** - 2015 Economic Forecast
- **November 12** - BSW Luncheon - Healthcare
- **November 13** - LISD State of Schools Report
- **December** - No Luncheon

Best Southwest Networking "CAN"

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Various Times/Locations. Call Chamber for info

A combined networking with the Chambers:
Lancaster, DeSoto, Duncanville, & Cedar Hill

- **March 6** - Lancaster Chamber
- **May 8** - Cedar Hill Chamber
- **June 19** - Midlothian Chamber
- **September 25** - DeSoto Chamber
- **October 16** - Duncanville Chamber

Stay up to date! The Chamber calendar is a comprehensive list of all of the Chamber of Commerce's upcoming events. We are always in need of sponsors and volunteers, so check them out and get involved! Call us, 972.227.2579, for more info about some of the annual events put on by our Chamber.

EVENTS

MEMBERSHIP

GOVERNMENT

COMMITTEES

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



NETWORK @ NIGHT!



SMALL BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE



MONTHLY NETWORKING!



DATES

Chamber program time/venue:

Lancaster Recreation Center
1700 Veterans Memorial Pkwy
Lancaster, TX 75134

Thursday, January 9, 2014

State of the City Address at Lancaster Chamber Luncheon

Featuring
Hon. Marcus E. Knight, Mayor

For more information about this program, please contact Lauren Grady Johnson at 972.227.2579 or chamber@LancasterTX.org.

Time:
11:30 AM - Registration
11:45 AM - 1:00 PM - Program
(Lunch will be provided and catered by a chamber partner and restaurant local to Lancaster.)

Cost:
\$20 Chamber Members
\$35 Non-Members

RSVP To:
972.227.2579
chamber@LancasterTX.org

“NETWORK ... AND EAT”

Thursday, January 23, 2014
5:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.

Bring your business cards and a door prize if you wish. Everyone will get a chance to tell us about their business.

Call the chamber for the location.

Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce

Calendar of Events

BETTER BUSINESS BREAKFAST

“What Challenges do you face as a Small Business in Lancaster?” Roundtable discussion about problems you as a small businesses are facing today.

Lancaster Area Chamber Office
103 N. Dallas Ave.
P. O. Box 1100
Lancaster, Texas 75146

FIRST THURSDAY OF THE MONTH

Lancaster Networking will be the **First Thursday** of each month. We will alternate between a lunchtime event and an evening event.

The **Third Month** will combine Cedar Hill, DeSoto, Duncanville, Midlothian, and Lancaster for an evening networking event.

Other Events

Monday, January 6, 2014 (Deadline)
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
“Dream Big Small Business of the Year Award 2014”
uschambersummit.com/award

Saturday, January 11, 2014
2nd Saturdays on the Square (10 - 4)

Wednesday, January 15
Mayor Marcus Knight, FAMU, and Tom Joyner Foundation Jazz Reception
6:00-9:00 PM
Chef Carlos on the Square

Friday, January 17, 2014
Dallas Regional Chamber
“Annual Membership Meeting”
Shannon Nail, nail@dallaschamber.org or call 214-712-1922

Thursday, January 23, 2014
Chamber New Year & Member Appreciation Reception

Friday, January 24, 2014
40 Under Forty Application Deadline

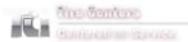
February 2014
Annual Back To Work Job Fair
Annual Chamber Bowl-a-Thon
Call chamber for info on both events

Thursday, February 13, 2014
Annual Chamber Awards Luncheon
11:30 - 1:00 PM
Lancaster Recreation Center
1700 Veterans Memorial Pkwy
Lancaster, TX 75134
RSVP: 972.227.2579 or chamber@LancasterTX.org

Saturday, April 12, 2014
First Annual Miss Lancaster/ Miss Teen Lancaster Pageant

Saturday, April 26, 2014 at 6:30 PM
Annual Gala & Auction
Hilton Garden Inn Duncanville-Dallas
Duncanville, TX 75116

Gold Chamber Partners



Silver Chamber Partners



Bronze Chamber Partners



Lancaster firstannual



2013 RECIPIENT PROFILES "THIS COULD BE YOU"

It will be with great pride and a hefty dash of admiration that we will present the recipients of the 2013 Lancaster Chamber 40 Under Forty Recognition, a longstanding tradition and one we are happy to be part of for the first time. This year's recipients will truly traverse a constellation of occupations and businesses, from local business owners, business CEOs to regional business leaders, administrators to management partners to civic leaders to future entrepreneurs. But Chamber's 40 Under Forty recipients will also share one common thread, and that's the determination, drive and ability to succeed in both business and community-based ventures.



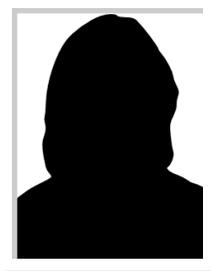
Jane Doe
Any Business



James Doe
Any Business



Jane Doe
Any Business



James Doe
Any Business



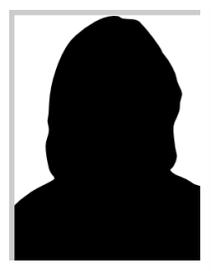
James Doe
Any Business



Jane Doe
Any Business



James Doe
Any Business



Jane Doe
Any Business



James Doe
Any Business



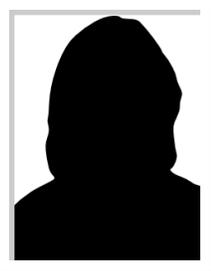
James Doe
Any Business



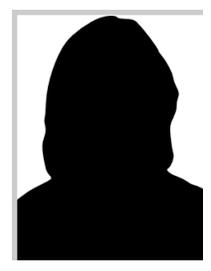
Jane Doe
Any Business



James Doe
Any Business



Jane Doe
Any Business



James Doe
Any Business



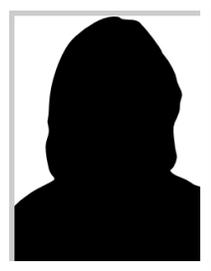
James Doe
Any Business



Jane Doe
Any Business



James Doe
Any Business



Jane Doe
Any Business



James Doe
Any Business

Get your application TODAY @ LancasterTX.org or 972.227.2579 TODAY!



2013 “40 Under Forty” Sponsorship Opportunities

_____ (company or individual name as it should appear in recognition)
agrees to sponsor the 2013 40 Under Forty Awards Luncheon. Please select your level of sponsorship and/or tickets:

[] Platinum Partner - \$1,000

- Prominent logo recognition on all “40 Under Forty” marketing and media materials
- Prominent logo recognition on event slideshow
- Prominent logo on the Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce “40 Under Forty” web page
- Prominent logo position in printed program and recognition on signage at event
- Reserved table for eight in prominent location
- Name recognition from podium

[] Diamond Partner - \$750

- Logo recognition on all “40 Under Forty” marketing and media materials
- Logo recognition on event slideshow
- Logo on the Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce “40 Under Forty” web page
- Logo in printed program and recognition on signage at event
- Reserved seating for six in prominent location

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>> Lancaster Independent School District

Elise Robertson Lancaster STEM Middle School Hosts Career Day 2013: Preparing to Reap the Harvest

By Sonya Cole Hamilton, Executive Director of Communications, Lancaster Independent School District

About 40 professionals united at the Elsie Robertson Lancaster STEM Middle School (LMS) to highlight possible professional paths during the 2013 annual Career Day, themed "Preparing to Reap the Harvest."

After brief introductions, 30 student ambassadors paired off to greet and escort guests to their presentation rooms filled with eighth grade students. Entrepreneurs and career professionals from the healthcare, public safety, law enforcement, engineering, sales and marketing and education industries shared first-hand knowledge, practical career information and inspired the students with details of their journeys to success.

Northwood University Library Director Kaethryn Duncan, was overjoyed as she reflected on her first-time experience at the LMS Career Day.

"It was wonderful and the kids were engaged, listening and asked great questions," she said. "They showed a lot of interest and there was a lot of give and take. I hope they ask me come back next year."

Eighth grade students heard from Lancaster's first African-American female Chief of Police, Cheryl Wilson, who shared her story and offered life wisdom along with Chanel Bacon of Hilton Hotels Sales & Catering, the Lancaster Fire Department, Doug Hunt of Access Self Storage, Patricia Coleman, a

banker and a member of Leadership Southwest, Kenneth Govan of ONCOR, representatives from Costco and the University of Phoenix, among others.

Takoya Mandigo, eighth grade counselor and Career Day coordinator, explained the value of this program.

"It is important because it is another way to expose our students to life beyond high school and allows them to be exposed to other careers, instead of the ones that we often hear about."

Main Attraction Hair Salon Owner, Renee' Bennett inspired students with her up and down journey of perseverance and encouraged them to fulfill their dream.

"This is my motto that I live by: The only one who can stop it is you."

Eighth graders, had the opportunity to hear from two professionals for an entire class period.

Yolanda Conner, a registered nurse, engaged students with her interactive, hands-on presentation on CPR and basic life-saving and nursing techniques. Students in her sessions actually learned to identify someone in distress and how to perform CPR on adults and babies.

"I wish it was longer because the kids were not ready to stop," she said.

Ms. Mandigo and her team are now making plans for the spring Career Week and Texas Scholars events. Both are dedicated to making the path for a successful future more clear for middle school students in Lancaster ISD.

The Lancaster Public Schools serve more than 6,000 pre-kindergarten through grade 12 students in 11 schools. The mission of the Lancaster Independent School District, a leader in providing innovative, quality programs, is to educate every student with the knowledge; skills; and principles to succeed and contribute in a competitive and technologically advancing world by providing rigorous and engaging learning opportunities that promote diversity; create an environment of integrity and respect; and establish a commitment to continued improvement in partnership with families and community.



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Around and About The Best Southwest Partnership

By Joe Johnson, IOM, Executive Director, The Best Southwest Partnership



Joe Johnson, IOM
Executive Director
Best Southwest Partnership

It seems like only yesterday that the Best Southwest Partnership Board met to make plans for 2013, and now it is preparing plans for 2014. To do this we glance back at our accomplishments and look forward to a very busy and Happy New Year!

A Look Back at 2013

On March 28th, we held an interesting 1st Quarter BSW Luncheon concentrating on Transportation and the resulting Economic Development it generates. Mayor Rob Franke from Cedar Hill chaired this meeting and invited Mr. John Terrell, VP Commercial Development of D/FW Airport, who spoke of Transportation, Economic Development and cooperation among cities – and the resulting benefits.

On April 10th it was “BSW Day at the Capitol” with 40 BSW Leaders converging on Austin to have private meetings with Governor Perry, Lt. Governor Dewhurst, and Speaker of the Texas House Strauss. The group also received recognition on the Senate floor

hosted by Senator Royce West, and on the House Floor by Representatives Helen Giddings and Yvonne Davis. The BSW Leaders met with Health Care, Education, and Transportation officials while at the Capitol, with each BSW Core Initiative Committee presenting its Talking Points.

May 30th was the date of 2nd Quarter BSW Luncheon, the largest of the year, and a sellout at 265 – unfortunately turning away about 15 people. On the dais at the head table were 11 Mayors, who with their School District Superintendents presented 11 BSW Scholarships – one from each of the Member Cities. The Education Committee, expecting an even larger crowd, has already set the 2014 date for May 29th at the Hilton Garden Inn-Duncanville. In the words of Dr. Kevin Fegan – “You better reserve your seat or table now, because this will also be a sellout!” Dr. Michael McFarland chairs BSW’s Education Committee.

August brings the always popular TGIF Legislative Breakfast Series on the first four Fridays of the month at Methodist Charlton Medical Center. And 2013 achieved the largest attendance on record, hosting Sen. West, Rep. Pitts, Rep. Davis and Rep. Giddings on successive Fridays.

December 12th was the date of BSW Health Care Luncheon, and it was a resounding success. “A Conversation About Health Care” with Dr. Stephen Mansfield, President of Methodist health System and Mr. Zachary Thompson, Director of Dallas County Health & Human Services, were interviewed by Lancaster Mayor Marcus Knight, and shed revealing light on a very complicated issue – Health Care. It’s always impressive to see 12 Mayors or Council Persons on the dais at the head table! Mayor Dr. Carrie Gordon represented Balch Springs, BSW’s newest member.

December 20th is the date of the 2014 BSW Planning Session to be held at the Holiday Inn Express-DeSoto, where we’ll review results for 2013 and make plans for the New Year.

During 2013, there were 12 BSW Executive Board Meetings and 11 BSW Full Board Meetings, with BSW leaders from all 11 communities actively participating in carrying out the Core Initiatives of Transportation, Education, Legislation, and Health Care – all of which promote BSW’s Mission which is Economic Development and Tourism.

And we’ll see you ... “Around and About!”



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State of the City Address

Mayor Marcus E. Knight and the City of Lancaster cordially invite you to attend the State of the City Address at the Chamber of Commerce Luncheon.

The speech is a comprehensive review of the last calendar year’s accomplishments in the areas of fiscal management, civic engagement, economic development, infrastructure improvements and more.

Date

January 9, 2014

Time

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Cost

\$20 Chamber Member
\$35 Non-member

Location

Lancaster Recreation Center
1700 Veterans Memorial Parkway
Lancaster, Texas 75134

RSVP

Lauren Grady Johnson
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Food Vendor


Chef Carlos

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May 2014 Volume 16, No. 1

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11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

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>> Lancaster Independent School District

Elevate Your Practice

A Special Message From Lancaster Independent School District

By Dr. Tamela Horton, Executive Director of School Improvement, Lancaster Independent School District



Dr. Tamela Horton
Executive Director of School Improvement
Lancaster Independent School District

I recently attended the Learning Forward Annual Conference, and this year, the theme was “Elevate Your Practice.” As I contemplated the theme, I made connections to the work we are doing in Lancaster ISD dedicated to increasing student learning outcomes and preparation for postsecondary success. Elevating the instructional quality of Lancaster ISD teachers is one critical area of focus.

Research has consistently shown that teacher quality is the strongest variable impacting student achievement. We have embraced this reality and developed a tiered professional development model that supports the needs of our teachers. At the campus level, teachers gather weekly in cluster meet-

ings led by campus instructional specialists. The cluster meetings provide time for teachers to delve deeply into issues of curriculum, instruction and assessment. Teachers work collaboratively, share best practices, analyze student data and develop instructional strategies that support the goal of increasing student achievement in the weekly sessions.

Teachers also meet weekly within their professional learning communities (PLCs) to focus on content development. During these meetings, content area teachers work interdependently with campus instructional specialists and our district STEM coordinators and coaches to analyze their content specific student expectations, sequence the curriculum and strengthening their content knowledge. The content-focused PLCs allow teachers to gain the deep content knowledge needed to be able to determine the best methods of communicating the concepts to students.

The weekly PLCs and cluster meetings work simultaneously to enhance teachers’ content and pedagogical proficiency and prepare them to support the success of all students.

Lancaster ISD’s district-level professional development model makes use of student and teacher data to promote continuous learning opportunities that address prioritized teacher needs. The professional development is structured so that days for training

are allotted in summer months as well as during the regular school year, school day and online. Our model supports the professional learning and growth of our teachers by providing them with focused learning opportunities that strengthen their skills and prepares them to positively impact student learning.

Increasing teacher quality is the most vital component in reaching our district goals for student learning and their future outcomes. Researchers have observed that “the quality of a school system rests on the quality of its teachers.” By elevating our teaching practices, we are working to ensure that when students graduate from Lancaster ISD, they will leave with more than a diploma. They will leave college and career-ready with choices and opportunities.

The Lancaster Public Schools serve more than 6,000 pre-kindergarten through grade 12 students in 11 schools. The mission of the Lancaster Independent School District, a leader in providing innovative, quality programs, is to educate every student with the knowledge; skills; and principles to succeed and contribute in a competitive and technologically advancing world by providing rigorous and engaging learning opportunities that promote diversity; create an environment of integrity and respect; and establish a commitment to continued improvement in partnership with families and community.



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SBA seeks nominations for Dallas-Fort Worth District

Small Business Person of the Year, Small Business Champions

By Ahmad Goree, U.S. Small Business Administration

The U.S. Small Business Administration Dallas/Fort Worth District Office is seeking successful and inspiring entrepreneurs to represent the DFW district during the 2014 National Small Business Awards event hosted by the SBA. Nominations are due Jan. 17, 2014.

“This is the time to honor an outstanding entrepreneur in your area. Small business owners are so important to the strength of our country, and these awards provide an opportunity to celebrate their success,” said Yolanda Garcia Olivarez, SBA Regional Administrator. Olivarez heads Region VI which serves more than 3.3 million entrepreneurs in Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. “Each day these men and women overcome obstacles with creativity and perseverance, and help create jobs for themselves and others.”

The DFW district Small Business Person of the Year will be selected based on staying power as evidenced by a minimum three years in business, growth in number of employees, increase in sales, innovativeness of product or service, response to adversity and contributions to community-oriented projects. The DFW district award winner goes on to compete for National Small Business Person of the Year award. Any individual or organization dedicated to the support of the small business community in the United States, may submit nominations, including trade and professional associations and business organizations.

“These awards provide an opportunity to honor the success of small business owners across our communities who work to create jobs for themselves and others while strengthening the economy of our nation”, said Herbert Austin, DFW District Director. Austin heads the Dallas/Fort Worth District Office which serves more than 905,000 entrepreneurs in 72 counties in North East Texas.

Nominations will also be accepted in the following categories:

1. National Small Business Exporter of the Year

2. National 8(a) Graduate of the Year
3. National Phoenix (Disaster Recovery) Awards
4. SBA Young Entrepreneur of the Year
5. Family-Owned Business of the Year
6. Entrepreneurial Success Award
7. Financial Services Champion of the Year
8. Home-Based Business Champion of the Year
9. Minority Small Business Champion of the Year
10. Veteran Small Business Champion of the Year
11. Women in Business Champion of the Year

Nominees for these awards should fit the following categories:

National Small Business Exporter of the Year:

An individual who owns and operates a small business engaged in exporting.

National 8(a) Graduate of the Year:

This award recognizes a formerly certified 8(a) Business Development Program participant that graduated from the program for at least one year as of April 1, 2013. The firm does not have to currently be a small business.

National Phoenix (Disaster Recovery) Awards:

These awards are given to those individuals (business owners, volunteers and public officials) whose efforts and contributions have enabled their business or communities to recover successfully from a disaster.

SBA Young Entrepreneur of the Year:

To be considered a young entrepreneur, the individual must serve as a majority owner and operate or bear principal responsibility for operating a small business with a three year track record, and who will not have reached the age of 30 by June 1, 2014.

Family-Owned Business of the Year:

This award honors a family-owned and operated business which has been passed on from one generation to the next. The owner must also serve as a majority owner and operator or bear principal responsibility with at least a 15-year track record.

Entrepreneurial Success

Award: Individuals must own and operate businesses initially launched as small according to SBA size standards and subsequently developed into large businesses; and they must have received SBA assistance to help the businesses grow.

The following Champion award nominees may or not be small business owners:

Financial Services Champion of the Year:

An individual who assists small businesses through advocacy efforts to increase the usefulness and availability of accounting or financial services.

Home-Based Business Champion of the Year:

An individual who has experienced the rewards and difficulties of owning a home-based business and has volunteered to improve the climate for these businesses may be nominated.

Minority Small Business Champion of the Year:

An individual who has fulfilled a commitment to the advancement of small business opportunities for minority business owners.

Veteran Small Business Champion of the Year:

An individual who has fulfilled a commitment to the advancement of small business opportunities for veterans of the U.S. armed forces may be nominated. Nominees may or may not be veterans.

Women in Business Champion of the Year:

An individual who has fulfilled a commitment to the advancement of women's business ownership may be nominated.

Nominations should be submitted to the U.S. Small Business Administration, 4300 Amon Carter Blvd., Suite 114, Fort Worth, Texas 76155, Attn: Ahmad Goree. Nominees who will compete for national awards should submit nominations via the SBA online nominations portal at nationalsmallbusinessweek.sba.gov/user.

For more information, contact Herbert Austin by telephone at 817-684-5502 or by e-mail at herbert.austin@sba.gov.

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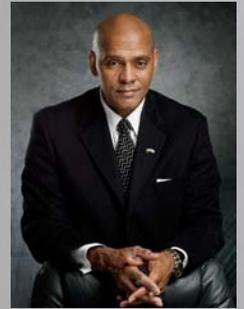
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15 Stitches

Expect Victory

By Jay Jackson, CPT, Take Charge Fitness Studio, Contributing Columnist

As a personal trainer I have an opportunity to meet some hard-working, smart, talented and highly influential people who have amassed financial wealth and achieved arguably the highest levels of academic success. In spite of all of their many accomplishments, ironically the same people are yet unfulfilled in areas pertaining to their personal lives. As a result, I was compelled to develop a program called Fifteen Stitches to address this dilemma.

Used as a verb, the word stitch means to make, or mend something (in this case your life) together. Fifteen Stitches (FS) is an assembly of the most effective principles needed to help you focus on relevant, life-changing details to include daily activities, thought processes, levels of motivation and drive. When implemented properly, Fifteen Stitches will successfully guide you throughout life's many challenges.

Before I started my own fitness business, I reached a point in my life where I felt as though I was not living up to my potential. I felt I had so much more to offer. I was not certain what career path to take, but I knew I wanted an opportunity to pour everything I had into it.

Fifteen years ago I was hired as an information technology consultant. It was arguably the best job that I had ever had. I was able to quickly advance in the job, paid-off some debt and life was seemingly good. Little did I know that the "IT bubble" was about to burst

and I would lose my job and be forced to find another way to make ends meet. Though I was facing some extremely challenging times in my personal and financial life, I still *anticipated* the day that I would share with you how I overcame those personal setbacks, and

since then I have been feverishly preparing to speak to you today. If you predicted that one day you would be asked to deliver a life changing message, what would you say? Well, I would recommend that you start thinking about finding your message, because once you've mastered the disciplines contained in 15 Stitches, you will also be able to foresee a better outcome that resulted from perceived setbacks.

Fifteen Stitches focuses on developing within you a sense of self-awareness that causes you to heighten your senses. Most people experience this heightened sense during an emergency. Without getting into too much biology, heightening your senses normally occurs unconsciously. It is a component of your sympathetic nervous system. In a nut shell, the response occurs automatically in an effort to give you a boost of energy. This energy generates an inner force similar to that of a gladiator before a battle. The moment you enter into this elevated sense of awareness, people will begin to notice that you are in another zone. At this point you begin seeing life's many moving parts as if you are looking at life through a microscope. An example of this level of awareness is when NBA players say things like, "I got into a zone, and the basketball goal looked twice as big," or when the sixth man is called off the bench to get into the basketball game for the first time. When pro golfers get into their zone they will say the holes on the green appeared larger. It is no secret that college football players report the most difficult adjustment from college to pro football is the speed of the game. The game is much faster at the professional level. As a result when an NFL player gets into his zone he will say, "It was as if the game slowed down for me."

Moreover, once you are in the zone, you begin to see things so clearly that your brain begins connecting the dots. (Connecting the dots is when something starts to make sense to you). Once something makes sense, you become like the NFL defensive back who anticipates that he will intercept the next pass from the quarterback, or when the wide receiver who antici-

pates the quarterback will be passing him the ball, his hands begin to tingle from the rush of blood flowing throughout his veins. He leaves the huddle with more energy and a heightened focus.

Imagine if you could live everyday with such vigor? What if I told you that in the next ten seconds your life would change and that you should begin anticipating something big happening in your life? The anticipation of finding your treasure is an example of Pavlov's experiment with a dog who knows he's about to eat. Out of *anticipation*, his mouth begins to water and the dog begins to salivate uncontrollably. Fifteen Stitches will not cause you to salivate uncontrollably, but you will begin to approach each day of your life like a person possessed with insight into the world which others will want to know about.

Napoleon Hill, author of best seller, *Think and Grow Rich* refers to this energy as a burning desire. Heavy-weight boxing champion Muhammad Ali mastered accessing the force to the point of predicting the round his opponent would succumb. This powerful energy is generated by your own ability to anticipate your own success. It is a gift that is always available to you. This energy is so powerful that it eliminates anything that could otherwise discourage you from predicting victory.

In my experience, anytime people lack focus, drive, or fulfillment, it is because they have been removed from sharing their passion for their gift. Notice I said gift and not talent. I have many talents to which include art, music, sports, public speaking, etc. But my true gift is my natural ability to connect with people. I am also passionate about helping others connect the dots of their lives. If you are always reacting to life's inevitable challenges, you'll always play this game called life at a disadvantage.

"15 Stitches; Expect Victory" LET'S ESTABLISH SOME RULES

Rule # 1: Realize that difficulties in your life are necessary. Learn to embrace your challenges because they exist for



Continued on page 21

15 Stitches

Expect Victory

By Jay Jackson, CPT, Take Charge Fitness Studio, Contributing Columnist

Continued from page 20

a reason. Obstacles are placed in your path to improve your level of awareness which helps to move you closer and closer to your gift.

Rule #2: Take nothing for granted. Every morning I gain consciousness, I'm grateful for yet another opportunity to gain the advantage. Nobody is ever going to walk up to you and hand over a winning lottery ticket. At the very least you need to develop an actual written plan for your life.

Rule #3: Well done is better than well said. Your actions are more important and more powerful than your name, where you are from, what you want or what you said. We are all granted 24 hours. It's important how you use your 24 hours?

Why Did I Write Fifteen Stitches?

Originally, I wrote Fifteen Stitches for young individuals who are now finding out life's harsh realities. However, I noticed how impactful this information was when I presented it to more mature adults who were at a crossroads in their own lives. Ultimately, I wanted to share Fifteen Stitches with men and women whose situation is so challenging that it is difficult for them to generate positive thoughts. Unfortunately, there are some wonderful people among us today who are under-coached, and are therefore unprepared to be effective when life throws the proverbial curveball. Those who were once hopeful are now losing hope because their faith alone appears to not be enough. Fifteen Stitches is proof that you have more control over your situation than you think. It teaches that you do not merely go through life, but rather life goes through you.

HOW TO START THE FIRST STITCH

Begin with the end in mind. Establish what you do **not** want to see in your big picture. If necessary, **separate** from people, places, and things that conflict with what you are trying to accomplish. Finally, **align** with information, reading material, and habits of other like-minded people who have already ob-

tained what you are seeking. I call this alignment "the huddle."

The huddle is the most important part of the play. It shows you where to line up, when to move and gives you instructions on where to go. The huddle creates anticipation of what to expect. If you truly expect something, you will prepare as though you believe it will happen.

The following is my list of 15 Stitches designed to help you get it together, keep it together, get in the game and take it to the next level:

Stitch #1: Get a *clean start*. Do not carry psychological/emotional dead weight. Remove the dead weight through forgiveness. Psychiatrist Stephen Marmer of UCLA Medical School teaches three levels of forgiveness. The highest level of forgiveness is exoneration. This is where you wipe the slate clean. This level often strengthens relationships similar to a broken bone that mends stronger than before the break. The second level of forgiveness is forbearance. Many relationships are stuck in forbearance. This is when trust has been broken and cannot be restored, but forgiveness is necessary for the sake of family, career or otherwise. Third level of forgiveness is release. Release is not about saving a relationship. It has nothing to do with anyone else but you. Release is your ability to simply let it go and move on. Forgiveness is the beginning of starting clean.

Stitch #2: What do you have to *change* about yourself in order to get started towards developing your big picture? It might be helpful to ask someone who will be honest with you to highlight characteristics you need to change.

Stitch #3: Look as far ahead as you can. Write out the details of what you *envision* yourself doing. This process is called *visualizing* the big picture. From your big picture, look back at smaller accomplishments that went into creating your big picture.

Stitch #4: How *important* is your big picture? If it is not very important to you, others will not see that it is impor-

tant enough to offer their assistance. However, if your big picture is important to you, but others don't see its importance today, give it more time. Remain committed, make improvements and perfect it. Do not let their lack of interest discourage you from your big picture. Very few people were interested in the world's greatest ideas prior to their invention. You might be a little ahead of your time which is what 15 Stitches is all about.

Stitch #5: Never use the cliché "nobody's perfect" to justify your flaws. *Prepare* as if perfection is obtainable and prepare as though your life depends on it-because it does. Replace "nobody's perfect" with a more productive cliché. I used the phrase "this too shall pass" when times were tough, and when times were not so tough. This phrase kept me from getting too excited when things appeared hopeful, and at the same time kept me from feelings of hopelessness when things appeared unfavorable.

Stitch #6: When something or someone challenges you, how will you respond? I refer to this as *inflection* protection. As with an injured or post-surgery patient, inflexion is the pain the patient feels when it is time get up and take those first few steps again. Prepare your response to pain beforehand. Rehearse your response in your head before taking the first step.

Stitch #7: Do not look to *blame* others when something does not go your way. Through this practice you will become an honorable, admired and respected person.

Stitch #8: *Appreciate* where you are in life today. Today is a big day because it represents your first opportunity to utilize the next 24 hours to gain an advantage.

Stitch #9: It never hurts to *pray*. Think of someone you favor. (It could be someone you've never met, a deceased friend or relative). What would your favored person do or say to you today? At age four My Great-grandmother taught me a lesson about prayer that took me 40

Continued on page 22

15 Stitches

Expect Victory

By Jay Jackson, CPT, Take Charge Fitness Studio, Contributing Columnist

Continued from page 21

years to understand. When I was four years old I asked my Great-grandmother a question about changing things I did not like, and she asked me did I pray? I was 44 years old before I realized that prayer has nothing to do with what you are asking for. Rather, prayer is a personal request to take the test that you must pass in order to show that you are worthy of receiving that which you are praying for.

Stitch #10: In the business world you are taught to always own more than you owe, but the 15 Stitches philosophy teaches the opposite. Always owe more than you own. Always look for ways to stitch up someone else. When you place helping others in your big picture you allow your gift to become a valuable asset (stitch) to others.

Stitch #11: Find your *gift*. If you do not work diligently to find your gift, you will find yourself working for some who has found theirs.

Stitch #12: Develop a *passion* for your gift. If you develop a passion for your gift, you will enjoy your work, give much more effort, and experience fulfillment. The hardest road is when you are passionate about something you are not gifted in.

Stitch #13: Know who you are, be true to the *knowledge of self* and always stay within yourself. When you ignore the truth about yourself you will end up in bad agreements, and unhealthy relationships. Knowledge of self will prevent you from playing the game of life out of position.

Stitch #14: What or who do you *believe*? After I became an adult my mother told me that she wished she could have given me more of an advantage during my childhood. She wanted me to attend better schools and live in a more stable household. I believed my mother gave me everything that I needed. She raised me to believe that I was worthy of a good, quality life and that I could one day I could raise my own family to become productive citizens. She said one that I could look forward to standing in a room filled with wealthy individuals, and not feel compelled to serve them. She gave me the confidence to believe that someday I would have something valuable share to help make people's lives better. I *believed* my mother. Who do you believe?

Stitch #15 Practice *good values*. There is an infinite list of words related to good values, but here are my top 10 values that you can practice daily.

Appreciation: Recognize the value of a person or thing; Credibility: Develop the quality of being able to be trusted; Dependability: Get into the habit of being reliable, steady and consistent; Ethical: Being in accordance with the accepted principles of right and wrong; Helpful: Do things that are accommodating and supportive; Honesty: Practice being truthful and sincere; Kindness: Show genuine acts of care and concern; Politeness: Be considerate and display courteous behavior; Objective: Base things on facts instead of your feelings or opinions; Forgiving: Make a conscious decision to release feelings of anger or resentment.

Incidentally, 15 Stitches helped me to realize the most important characteris-

tics of manhood. By today's social standards being a good man means different things to different people. The principles outlined in 15 Stitches revealed that a good man is one who is *good at being a man*. For example, a jungle lion is not the same as a circus lion. A jungle lion is true to his nature. He knows his role. He sticks to nature's script. He is good at being a lion. He knows when it is time to eat and knows how to feed himself. On the other hand, the circus lion is only a lion by appearance. The circus lion is considered smart though he has lost his natural instincts, and now lacks the natural intelligence and skillets needed to survive in the jungle. All of his training conflicts with his purpose as a lion. He relies on someone else to feed him.

Note to men: Stick to the fundamental characteristics of manhood; Note to women: Hold the man in your life accountable to the fundamental characteristics of manhood; Note to parents raising a son: Teach your son characteristics of manhood.

Manhood is simple. A man knows his role (*refer to the jungle lion*). Manhood is not about wanting something. It is about doing something. When a man speaks (verbally or otherwise) he says what he means. A man keeps his word by *doing* what he says. A man will not create excuses for his setbacks, instead, at every opportunity a man will ask, "What can I do to make things better?"

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2ND SATURDAYS

DOWNTOWN MAIN STREET | Historic Town Square | Lancaster, Texas



2014 SCHEDULED DATES

- ◆ January 11
- ◆ February 8
- ◆ March 8
- ◆ April 12 (Bicycle Ride)
- ◆ May 10
- ◆ June 14
- ◆ July 12
- ◆ August 9
- ◆ September 13
- ◆ October 11
- ◆ November 8
- ◆ December 6 (Christmas)
- ◆ December 13 (Christmas)

Enjoy a day of shopping, food and fun on the Historic Town Square. Over 30 regional vendors and countless stores on the square are jam-packed with fabulous bargains from new and vintage art, jewelry, antiques, crafts, food, fresh picked veggies and much more. Bring family and friends for a one-of-a-kind shopping spree!

Destination Lancaster...

Creating powerful partnerships to unite and grow member businesses and the region.



Shop Lancaster's Biggest and Best

10 AM - 4 PM
RAIN OR SHINE

EVERY 2ND
SATURDAY

FREE
ADMISSION

FREE
PARKING

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND VENDOR BOOTHS, PLEASE CONTACT
972.227.2579 (Stacy) or 972.971.2293 (Lou)

2nd Saturdays is a monthly cultural event in downtown Lancaster.

SHOP

EAT

PLAY

STAY



Every 2nd Saturday, downtown businesses and organizations host a variety of art happenings such as visual artist work, musical performances, theatrical skills, poetry readings, and more. Select retail merchants also offer specials for the evening. 2nd Saturdays aims to enliven the downtown and get people out walking to see what's going on in their cultural community.

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Co-Chair
G Walk Group Renovation & Repair

Sharon Brooks
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2014 LANCASTER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Lancaster Area Chamber of Commerce 31st Annual Golf Tournament will be held at the Country View Golf Club in Lancaster, Texas on Monday, October 13, 2014. The tournament benefits the Chamber's Program of Work, including education for kids: "Today's Youth - Tomorrow's Leaders".

The tournament gets BIGGER and BETTER every year and would not be made possible without the SUPPORT of our SPONSORS, TEAMS and VOLUNTEERS.

Please make plans to JOIN us for a great day of golf and fun in Lancaster, TX.

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