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**DENTON ISD WELCOMES
STUDENTS BACK TO SCHOOL**

**THE 96TH ANNUAL NORTH
TEXAS FAIR & RODEO**

FAMILY FUN MONTH

**BASIL - AN HERB
AND A VEGETABLE**

WHAT IS A SUCCULENT?

**YOU MATTER: TEXT, CALL
OR CHAT 988**

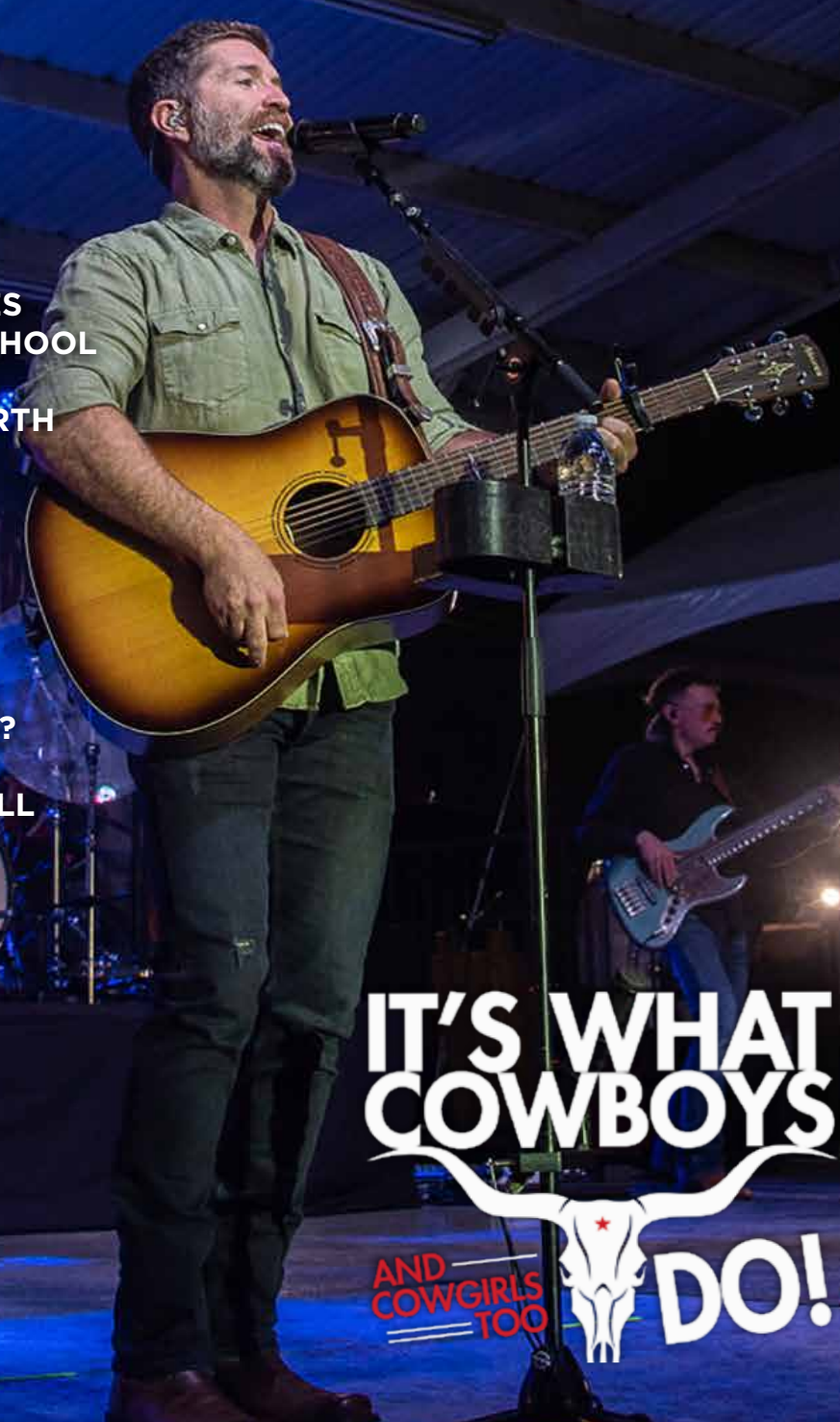
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LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHERS



Considering those early years, and the first day of school in particular, what incredible memories were made? Dreams are launched and personalities blossom during these magical days. Young people are soaking up this wonderful phase of life, even when blunders and insecurities may occasionally happen. The school years are wonderful overall. It's a time where we have the opportunity to use every crayon in the box, to see where we want to go, and to open our passport for life.



It's the conclusion of that lovely period between the school years. The noteworthy transition from one grade to the next is significant for both students and parents. Schedules, agendas, and bedtimes replace the long summer days once filled with free time, late nights, and sleeping in.

Big yellow buses are back on the roads, kids are on the sidewalks with backpacks in tow, and school zone signs are flashing. It's the time of year to slow down through school zones and add extra caution to the daily commute.

I've always looked forward to the final few days before classes resume. It was a unique period of connectivity. It was always exciting to shop with mom for clothes and supplies for school. I spent as much time as possible with my friends and siblings, going to leisurely lunches, watching early afternoon movies, and splashing in the pool. It was like savoring the last remaining morsels of the summer before school and activity schedules took over and daylight hours dimmed.

As we start navigating the approaching school year, parents and students alike are brimming with hope and eagerness, sprinkled with a bit of nervousness over what the new year holds in store. Before we know it, social media will be exploding with first-day school photos! As you scroll down your feed, it is easy to see how each kid carefully curated their outfits for this exciting day. Screens are adorned with big smiles, glowing faces, and perfectly coiffed hair. Their backpacks are filled with blank notebooks and folders that suggest a new year and a clean slate.

Jodie & David Prickett
PUBLISHERS

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The 380 Corridor's premier publication since 2005

380Guide.com 3

contents

6 Denton ISD Welcomes Students Back to School

8 North Texas Fair & Rodeo

10 Family Fun Month

11 Denton ISD Superintendent Jamie Wilson Announces Retirement

12 Basil: An Herb and a Vegetable

13 What is a Succulent?

14 You Matter: Text, Call or Chat 988

On the Cover



Josh Turner at the North Texas Fair & Rodeo

Get ready to saddle up and dance to the electrifying tunes of Country Music sensation, Josh Turner, at the North Texas Fair & Rodeo! This is a performance you won't want to miss, so grab your cowboy boots and join us for a night full of excitement and pure country bliss!

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Denton ISD Welcomes Students Back to School

2024 - 2025 SCHOOL YEAR

Information Provided by Denton ISD

Welcome to an exciting time to learn and grow in Denton ISD! This year we will welcome more than 32,000 students who will be served by more than 4,500 staff members committed to supporting excellence for all. A special thanks to our community for valuing our public schools, our staff, and the students we collectively serve.

We believe our schools value your child's development and our teachers provide the key connection for student success. We value the partnership we work to build each day with our families and take great pride in the progress our students experience in our classrooms.

Our mission to empower students to be engaged citizens who positively impact their local and global community can only be accomplished through partnership. Thank you for the opportunity to learn and grow together.

For information regarding campus specific supplies, please visit your child's campus website.

School hours are as follows:

Elementary School Hours: 7:40 a.m. - 3 p.m.

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96TH A

ANNOUNCES 2024 ENTERTAINMENT LINE-UP

North
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YOUTH AGRICULTURE

AUGUST 16
DENTON

Continuing its legacy of western heritage, family fun and exceptional entertainment, the 96th annual North Texas Fair & Rodeo will take place August 16–25, 2024 at the North Texas Fairgrounds, with nightly rodeos starting at 7:30 p.m. followed by some of the hottest country music! On June 13, 2024, the North Texas State Fair Association released this year’s full concert lineup at the Denton Chamber of Commerce membership luncheon and went live with ticket sales.

Every August, NTFR consistently brings exceptional country music to the north Texas region with not one, but two stages, and multiple shows daily. Kicking off the event, Clay Walker will perform on the Miller Lite Main Stage Friday, August 16. Then, throughout nine more days of fair fun, headlining artists will include Josh Turner, Michael Salgado, Jake Hooker & The Outsiders, Ryder Grimes, Kody West, Casey Donahew, Kolby Cooper, Ashley McBryde, Neal McCoy and Los Herederos de Nuevo Leon.

“We are so excited to bring live music of this caliber to Denton once again,” said NTFR Executive Director Glenn Carlton. “We strive every year to make this event better than it was the previous year, and these artists are sure to put on a great show for all our rodeo and concert fans.”

Each evening, NTFR will also have supporting concerts on the Cool Zone Revolver Stage with both local artists and upcoming talent from across the country. These will include Isaac Hoskins, Jason Lovell, Big Joe Walker, Josh Ward, Joe King, South TX Homies, Sonny Burgess, Jolie Holliday, Brian Houser, Billie Jo Jones, Austin Akins, Mark Lafon, Ariana Ortiz, Jessee Lee Band, Cameron Hobbs, Hayden Hilliard, Jarrod Morris, Michael Kelton, Scott Sean White, Dave Thomas, Tyler Halverson, Tanner Sparks, Jared Thomas, Jeff Martin, Micky & The Motorcars and Joe B Project IV.

Continuing the legacy of the association, this year’s event will once again bring the north Texas community together to cherish our western heritage with LIVE entertainment, FUN attractions and NEW exhibits – now for a full 10 days!

For more information or to purchase tickets, visit ntfair.com. Advance, reduced cost tickets can also be purchased at any DFW O’Reilly Auto Parts store.



 8/16 CLAY WALKER <small>Jason Walker, Jason Lovell, Big Joe Walker, Josh Ward</small>	 8/17 JOSH TURNER <small>Joe King</small>	 8/18 MICHAEL SALGADO <small>South TX Homies</small>	 8/19 JAKE HOOKER & THE OUTSIDERS <small>Sonny Burgess, Jolie Holliday, Brian Houser</small>	 8/20 RYDER GRIMES <small>Billie Jo Jones, Austin Akins, Mark Lafon, Ariana Ortiz</small>	 8/21 KODY WEST <small>Jessee Lee Band, Cameron Hobbs</small>
 8/22 CASEY DONAHEW <small>Hayden Hilliard, Jarrod Morris</small>	 8/22 KOLBY COOPER	 8/23 ASHLEY MCBRYDE <small>Michael Kelton, Scott Sean White, Dave Thomas, Tyler Halverson</small>	 8/24 NEAL MCCOY <small>Tanner Sparks, Jared Thomas, Jeff Martin, Micky & The Motorcars</small>	 8/25 LOS HEREDEROS DE NUEVO LEON <small>Joe B Project IV</small>	

The NTFR is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to the... into programs, scholarships and facilities. The NTFR, and its ass... According to the Center of Economic Development at the Unive... economic impact in Denton County and an approximately \$4 mi

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AND COWGIRLS TOO



DO!

The preservation of western heritage. All revenue is reinvested in youth organizations, contribute around \$500,000 each year to area youth organizations. The University of North Texas, the NTFR and its facilities have a \$7 million impact on the City of Denton.

Four local students were awarded scholarships by the North Texas State Fair Association for the 2024-2025 school year. Scholarships are one way that the association gives back and contributes to the mission of supporting youth, agriculture and community. Applications were due by June 1, 2024.

Awarded the North Texas State Fair Association scholarship was Stockton James from Denton, Texas. James has been involved in FFA for two years and 4H for eight years, and he plans to study Ag Economics and Business at Texas Tech University.

Macie Mangus from Sanger, Texas was the recipient of the Bob C. Powers scholarship. Mangus has been involved in FFA for seven years and plans to major in Pre-Nursing and minor in Agribusiness Management at Texas Tech University.

The recipient of the Robert Bell & Bobby Jones Memorial Trade or Vocational scholarship was Emma Williamson from Sanger, Texas. Williamson has been involved in FFA for three years and 4H for one year, and she plans to attend Texas Tech University to study Animal Science and Agricultural Communications.

Sydney Bickers was awarded the Harry Hall & Bill Allen Continuing Education scholarship. Originally from Valley View, Texas, Bickers plans to attend Texas Tech University where she will study Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science.

A new scholarship this year, the Clyde & Pauline Fisher Foundation Scholarship was awarded to Joshua Hayes. Hayes, from Sanger, Texas, was involved in FFA for two years and 4H for 10 years, and he will attend Texas State University to study Wildlife Biology.

For more information or to request an interview with any of the recipients, please visit ntfair.com or contact Hannah Crandall at hannah@ntfair.com.

Family Fun MONTH

Summer may be winding down, but that doesn't mean the fun has to stop! August is Family Fun Month, and it's the perfect time to make some unforgettable memories with your loved ones. Whether you're going to a nearby lake, taking a road trip, or just having a good old-fashioned BBQ in the backyard, there are endless ways to have a blast with your family.

Why limit the fun to just one day? With an entire month dedicated to family fun, you have plenty of time to plan all sorts of activities. Get creative and try something new, like a family game night or a DIY project. Or keep it simple and just spend quality time together, whether it's watching a movie or taking a walk in the park.

No matter what you do, the most important thing is to have fun and enjoy each other's company. So put down those screens and devices and make some real connections this August. Because when it comes down to it, family is what it's all about.



2024 | AUGUST

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Dr. Jamie Wilson, Denton ISD Superintendent, Announces Retirement After Two Decades of Leadership

Doctor Jamie Wilson, who has served as the Superintendent of Schools for the Denton Independent School District since July 1, 2012, announced his retirement following 20 years of service to the families and employees of the approximately 33,000-student district.

The Board of School Trustees named him Superintendent – Emeritus until Jan. 31, which will allow for a smooth leadership transition. Based on the district's succession plan, Trustees also named Dr. Susannah Holbert O'Bara the Acting Superintendent and posted the Superintendent's position, welcoming internal applicants.

"Dr. Wilson's steadfast leadership and service to our community has been invaluable," said Barbara Burns, President of the Board of School Trustees. "Under his guidance, our district has kept pace with fast growth, managed closure during the pandemic and achieved positive student outcomes despite inadequate funding from our state. His advocacy for public education and his love for students are evident in all he has done."

During his 34-year career, including 20 years with the district, Dr. Wilson built a reputation through public education advocacy, growth management and instructional innovation. Dr. Wilson joined the district in 2005 as the Assistant Superintendent for Secondary Academic Programs, where he immediately focused on improving educational programs for the district's growing student population.

Dr. Wilson led or has been part of three Capital Improvement Plans, which have helped open multiple new campuses including three high schools, five middle schools, 17 elementary schools, three early childhood facilities and the LaGrone Academy. Much of this growth occurred outside of the Denton city limits as the district expanded educational opportunities into more of its 186-square miles which includes: Braswell High (Little Elm), Cheek Middle (Prosper), Navo Middle (Aubrey), Harpool Middle (Lantana), Myers Middle (Shady Shores) and Rodriguez Middle (Oak Point).

Under his leadership, the Denton ISD community has supported the replacement of aging campuses including: Newton Rayzor Elementary, Calhoun Middle, Strickland Middle and Denton High. In the next three years, both Borman Elementary and Ginnings Elementary school will be replaced due to Dr. Wilson's foresight and planning.

"I am beyond grateful for the support I have received from our educators, staff and community during my time in Denton ISD. Every decision made was to improve the educational opportunities for the students of this district and I, along with our dedicated Board of Trustees, could not have done it without each and every person that plays a role in helping our young people be successful, and for that I say 'Thank you,'" said Dr. Wilson.

In 2016, the National School Public Relations Association named Dr. Wilson among the "Top 25 Superintendents to Watch" for his innovative practices in the area of public engagement and outreach. He was the only honoree from Texas – and the only administrator selected from the South-Central Region of the U.S., which encompasses seven states.

Dr. Wilson's vision for Denton ISD reached beyond the classroom, as he worked to expand support for staff in their effort to provide excellence in classroom instruction. Under his leadership, the district expanded technology support systems including strengthening network security and providing one-to-one instructional devices for all students.

To provide more collaborative support for the district's families, he established the Giese Support Services Building that houses the district's Special Education, Bilingual/ESL, Health Services and Counseling/Social Work Departments. The building's central location allows for families to have all of their essential needs met in one location upon a student's enrollment.

In addition, Dr. Wilson has been very active in leadership across Texas. He has served in a leadership role with the Fast Growth Schools Coalition, the Texas Association of School Administrators



Dr. Jamie Wilson



Dr. Susannah Holbert O'Bara

and Friends of Texas Public Schools. Dr. Wilson is also a board member for the United Way of Denton County, Communities in Schools of North Texas, Denton County Children's Advocacy Center and DATCU.

Years prior, Dr. Wilson served in various educational leadership positions for the Keller and Aubrey school districts. In Keller ISD, he was the Principal at Keller High and also served as Assistant Principal, science department chair, coach and teacher. He also was Principal at Aubrey High and a biology teacher and assistant coach at A&M Consolidated High School.

He received his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of North Texas, his superintendency certification from Texas Woman's University and completed his doctorate of education administration from UNT, where he was awarded the Outstanding Doctoral Student in Educational Administration Award. His research area, Predictors of College and Career Readiness has served as a springboard for readiness initiatives across the district.

Dr. Wilson has been married to Melanie Pettit Wilson, an outstanding retired educator, for more than 32 years. They have two daughters, Makenzie and Macie, a Denton High graduate.

Acting Superintendent Dr. Susannah Holbert O'Bara is a life-long resident and has extensive knowledge of Denton ISD and its history of academic excellence. Growing up, she attended Borman Elementary, Calhoun Middle School and graduated from Denton High School when the campus was on Fulton Street.

Dr. O'Bara has worked in a variety of classroom and leadership positions within Denton ISD over her 32-year career, most recently as the Deputy Superintendent of the district, overseeing district curriculum, instruction, staff development and academic programs of all 43 campuses.



Basil

An Herb and a Vegetable

WRITTEN BY IVY SUMMERFIELD, MASTER GARDENER

Basil is loaded with nutrients. Primarily used in a culinary setting as an Herb. As a Vegetable, basil is used in soups, salads, as garnish, or marinated in olive oil for use in pesto and various pasta dishes and sauces. It's vibrant green or purple foliage is stunning in any dish or garden.

PLANT REQUIREMENTS:

Basil is considered an annual. It produces leaves to harvest and seeds to collect all in one season. Basil thrives in heat, so remember to pinch your flowers off to promote a bushy plant, otherwise the basil plant will go to seed.

VARIETIES TO GROW IN NORTH TEXAS:

According to Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, Basil is an herb that grows well in Texas.

The most common is sweet basil. Some others are cinnamon, holy, Genovese, lemon, and Thai. There is no shortage of green or purple varieties to choose from. Growing and care are the same for all varieties.

PLANTING TIPS:

1. Read your Seed package and follow the instructions.
2. In Ground/ Raised Bed; choose well-draining soil and amend with compost.
3. Container Planting; Use a rich potting soil that will retain moisture. Water evaporation is higher in containers so be mindful to check your soil moisture.
4. Sow your seeds or plant your transplant in a full sun location. Keep soil moist.



MAINTENANCE, PESTS & DISEASES:

Basil is considered one of the easiest Herbs to grow by seed. Pinching flower clusters will help promote a bushy plant. Touching your plant to release the fragrant smell doesn't hurt it either, ENJOY the moment.

Some known pests: Aphids, Flea beetles, Grasshoppers, Japanese's beetles, Leaf miners, and Cutworms. Damage from these pests can be as simple as leaf damage, stem damage or root damage. Check the leaves and stems often and look particularly at the backside of the leaves. Depending on the pest, removal could be as simple as spraying water on the leaves to remove them. In rare serious cases it's best to remove the plant and put in the trash, not the compost bin.

Diseases are another unpleasant event to witness on your Basil plant. Some fungal diseases include, Fusarium wilt, gray mold, root rot and downy mildew. Check out Cornell University's plant disease fact sheet, below. Leaf spot, brown or black spots on leaves or streaks on stems can be bacterial. Using sterile soil can eliminate this from happening.

Basil can be harvested when you have multiple leaves on the plant. Pinch the tips weekly to promote growth. Best harvesting practice is to cut stems as needed. Be mindful not to cut the woody stem and only cut new growth. Basil leaves can be air dried or dehydrated to store for future use. Once the Basil plant has produced flowers it is well on its way to making seeds. Harvest when they turn brown or gray and have dried completely. Store seeds in a dry place.

Enjoy growing this versatile herb.

Resources:

<https://agrillifeextension.tamu.edu/browse/featured-solutions/gardening-landscaping/fall-vegetable-gardening-guide-for-texas/>

<https://extension.psu.edu/growing-harvesting-and-preserving-herbs>

<http://plantclinic.cornell.edu/factsheets.html>



What Is A Succulent?

WRITTEN BY DENTON COUNTY MASTER GARDENERS

Succulents are plants that have thickened, fleshy parts used to retain water in arid conditions. Gardeners grow them because of their varied, striking, unusual appearance, as well as their ability to thrive with relatively little care. Many plant families include succulents. It seems as if it would be easy to grow succulents by putting them in soil, give them a little water and put them in the sun, but it isn't quite that easy. Succulents can be a challenge.

Overwatering is one of the biggest problems succulents face and is a major challenge for growers. In their natural environments, succulents have adapted to survive with very limited water sources, such as mist and dew, so while they do need water, they certainly don't need very much.

A second problem succulents struggle with is a soil mix that is too rich in organic matter for them. They need well-drained soil that is porous enough for water to quickly run through. Succulents will rot with too much water. Screen out woody particles from cactus mixes by sifting it through a sheet of ¼ inch-grid hardware cloth. This will make it easier to keep from overwatering your succulents. Alternatively, you can modify regular potting mixes by mixing sharp sand (not play sand) with it until you have a 50/50 mix. Because of the lack of organic material in the proper succulent soil, you should fertilize regularly with a low-dose fertilizer during the time of year when the plants are actively growing.



Succulents can be planted in a pot or bowl if it has a drain hole. The container you choose is limited only by your imagination. Fill the container about 75% full of soil. Add your succulents and fill in around them with more soil.

You can still use the "thriller, filler, spiller" style with succulents because there are SO MANY choices! To settle everyone into place, water in with a squirt bottle, but be careful not to overdo water.

Many gardeners overwinter their containers of tender succulents in a greenhouse or inside their home. Succulents that have a higher cold hardiness can be planted in the ground. There are very few varieties that would survive our winters, so choose carefully. Plant your succulent in a protected area and be sure they have good air circulation. Succulents enjoy the radiant heat from rocks or nearby hardscapes in the winter and don't mind it much in the summer. Succulents need to be in a partially shady area outside as they, like us, get sunburned in full sun. They are drought resistant – meaning they can go long times without water, but need the occasional good long drink.

Note that different succulents go dormant at different times. Some are dormant in the summer, while some wait for winter to move into dormancy.

Thank you, Carolyn Tinner, DCMGA Member and Propagation Specialist – edited from newsletter.

Happy Gardening

dcmga.com

The Denton County Master Gardener Association

Sources:

<https://www.finegardening.com/article/10-outstanding-succulents>

<https://www.gardendesign.com/succulents/containers.html>

<https://thesucculentsource.com/blogs/succulent-cactus-news/a-guide-on-how-to-plant-succulents>

<http://media.huntingfroton.org/ISI/catalogintro.html>

Container Gardening Basics:

<https://dcmga.com/north-texas-gardening/community-gardening/container-gardening-basics/>

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SEPTEMBER IS
Suicide Prevention
— AWARENESS MONTH —

Every September is Suicide Prevention Month. In order for Suicide Preventive Month to be a success, an appropriate message must be shared in order to raise awareness and spread preventive initiatives.

It's imperative to emphasize the significance that each and every individual and community play in preventing suicide. By raising awareness, people are better able to grasp that suicide is a severe public health issue and that understanding is essential for prevention.

It is crucial to realize that anyone can be affected by suicidal thoughts, regardless of their background, age, gender, or race. Thoughts of suicide are often the result of an untreated physical or mental health condition. These thoughts should never be considered normal; they often indicate more serious issues that need to be systematically addressed.

After much work and years of advocacy, 988 is now a simple-to-remember number that can be called or texted from anywhere, at any time, seven days a week. 988lifeline.org is also accessible if a person doesn't feel comfortable speaking on the phone.

While suicide is typically a taboo or stigmatized subject, September is a month dedicated to raising awareness. It is time to spread hope and vital information to individuals and loved ones affected by suicide. It is also critical that relatives and friends have easy access to much-needed venues and resources that provide assistance.

It is important to find a safe space where you can openly discuss subjects that would normally make you uncomfortable. By reaching out to 988, they are available to assist you and your loved ones during difficult times.

As we all know, untreated mental or physical conditions—or perhaps a combination of both—are frequently the cause of suicide ideation. You'll discover that treating the whole person improves overall welfare and is a highly effective method of providing comprehensive healthcare. Please, if you or a loved one is in need, reach out to 988 immediately.

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- Allergy & Asthma
- Thyroid Disorders
- Depression & Anxiety
- Sleep Disorders
- Bone & Joint Disorders

Preventative Screening

- Annual Physicals
- Well-Woman Exams (Pap Smear)
- Well-Male Exams (Prostate Exam)
- Skin Cancer Screening
- Breast and Colon Cancer Screening
- Vaccination Counseling
- Pre-Operative Evaluation & Clearance

Minor Procedures and Diagnostic Services

- Skin Biopsy & Pre-Cancerous Mole removal
- Cryo Therapy • Spirometry • EKG • Bladder Scan

- ✓ Open on Saturdays at Frisco Location
- ✓ Most Insurances including Medicare are welcome
- ✓ Same day appointments

~Two Locations~



Denton 940-382-6900

4206 North I-35
Denton, TX 76207
Fax: 940-382-1005

Frisco 469-301-2300

2440 Timber Ridge, Ste. 104
Frisco, TX 75034
Fax: 940-382-1005

PointBank Hosts Free, Award-Winning Networking Breakfasts

140 YEARS
SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Community banks are easy to spot for various reasons, chiefly their unrivaled commitment to the communities they serve. PointBank has long been known as a leader in that department, whether it be donating time, talent, and treasure to neighboring school districts, local nonprofits, libraries, and family assistance programs or offering value-added benefits such as networking and educational opportunities.

One of those initiatives that continues to grow in popularity is the bank's business networking breakfasts. Held at each of PointBank's nine branches, these breakfasts offer business owners from all corners of Denton County a chance to network with like-minded entrepreneurs of varying interests and all walks of life while at the same time sharing their voice, knowledge, and visibility to maximize their influence within their neighborhoods.

"Each attendee has an opportunity to highlight themselves and their business with a 30-second commercial to help put a friendly face with the name. From there, a keynote speaker presents a topic that strengthens future workforces and keeps everyone educated," PointBank President, Ray David, Jr. said.

"These are subject matter experts — people you want to know personally and network with professionally," David stated. "It's our goal that, when you leave, you are not hungry, smarter than when you came and you've met a new friend."

These business networking breakfasts are further proof that PointBank wants to be known as more than just another friendly local bank that offers free e-checking accounts. They listen to the needs of the community and then provide real value. From a recognition standpoint, the bank was honored the last three years with the Texas Bankers Foundation Cornerstone Award for its stellar community impact record. The breakfasts were a big part of that.

"It's no accident that business owners continue to look to us as a pillar of their community, and it's not by accident that we win in these areas repeatedly," David said. "We invite you to come join us at one of our breakfasts and bring a friend. Find out why it's not just banking. It's PointBanking!"

Visit facebook.com/MyPointBank/events for details.

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