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KYM RAPIER

Global Philanthropist
Nonprofit Powerhouse
by Zora Asberry, Emmy Winner

WOMAN OF THE YEAR

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From The Editor



She also attended the Kendall County Republican Women's Luncheon with guest speaker Cris Coons of Bexar County Republican Women at The Kendall.

Publisher Karen Grace is hosting this year's San Antonio Cultural Awards 2026 . Here she is filming promos at the Woodlawn Theater before for the big day, September 27th.











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COREFIT of Boerne



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owns and publishes BOERNE Monthly Magazine/TV. She is also the CEO of Grace Star Media Agency, based in San Antonio, Texas.

The retired news anchor at KENS 5 also serves as an adjunct professor at two universities, the University of Incarnate Word and Our Lady of the Lake University, teaching communications.

Karen earned a Master of Science in Journalism from Northwestern University in Chicago, Illinois. She also holds a Communications Arts and Psychology degree (with a minor in English)



Photo Credit
Miguel Flores

INTERVIEW

KYM RAPIER

GLOBAL REACH LOCAL ROOTS

Interview by Zora Asberry

Some travel the world collecting passport stamps, and then there are people like Kym Rapier, who travel the world telling stories that change lives.

Today, Kym Rapier is an award-winning philanthropist, entrepreneur, and founder of the Kym Rapier Foundation. Over the course of her philanthropic career, she has directed more than $100 million toward charitable initiatives, supporting humanitarian, educational, medical, and conservation efforts in sixteen countries around the world. Her work combines visual storytelling with hands-on service, using photography and film to shine a light on communities whose stories might otherwise go untold.

Kym's story begins right here in San Antonio, Texas. As a young child, she recognized the needs of others in her community. She says she has always had a deep "empathy for others."

GLOBAL REACH — LOCAL ROOTS



WOMAN OF THE YEAR *Kym Rapier:*

San Antonio Award-Winning *Philanthropist*

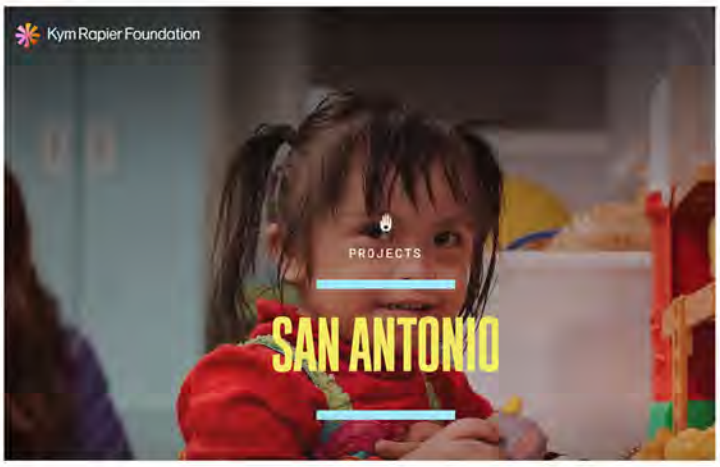
By Zora Asberry
Boerne Monthly Contributor

Her philanthropic journey dates to when she was just five years old. She donated all the proceeds from her makeshift lemonade stand to the Muscular Dystrophy Association, saying, "I didn't even know what it was, but I knew they needed the money more than I did," in an interview with San Antonio Woman in 2011.

What began as a child's desire to help has grown into a lifetime dedicated to finding communities in need and helping them build lasting solutions.

From that point on, she made it her mission to serve others in whatever way she felt was needed. From ensuring her community had access to education, safety, and healthcare to fostering abandoned animals around town that needed shelter and a couple of snuggles, Rapier's compassion was clear from an early age.

Kym has poured into the San Antonio community for as long as she can remember, from donating $1 million to the city's roof replacement program in 2018 to another $1 million in 2024 to the ThriveWell Cancer Foundation. In 2021, she met with Superintendent Rolando Ramirez to ease efforts to help Southside ISD students, serving as the district's largest single donor. "There is a medical clinic for our students, staff, and parents because of her. The food pantry serves thousands, and she does not ask for anything in return. She continues to ask if she can be of aid," said Superintendent Ramirez. Kym's funding has helped feed thousands of elderly community members, and the list of local efforts goes on.



Her humanitarian leadership has earned widespread recognition over the years, including the Association of Fundraising Professionals San Antonio's Outstanding Philanthropist Award, the Arthur O'Krent Humanitarian Award, and the Any Baby Can Angel Award. Yet those who know Rapier say she has never been motivated by recognition.

During her personal travels and early exploration of the world, she began to realize just how many people needed help. For Rapier, travel has never been about seeing the world, it has always been about understanding it. Every destination becomes another opportunity to listen first, learn from local experts, and invest in community-led solutions. The Foundation believes sustainable impact comes from empowering organizations already embedded within the communities they serve.



Her travels to Asia revealed the dark reality of human trafficking, and she sought to rescue children trapped with their oppressors. In Africa, Kym witnessed a lack of access to medical care and education, which led her to aid local changemakers through assisting with life-changing camps and science labs that provided vocational training for local communities. One of those initiatives includes her work with eye care, in tandem with philanthropist Mohammed Dewji. The Foundation helped to expand the reach and impact of Dewji's work and spread valuable information to the masses.

In Mozambique, Kym helped create scholarship programs and support students by providing food and access to education, allowing dozens of children to receive valuable schooling. There, she also helped build women's empowerment movements focused on food security and personal hygiene education.

Rapier recalls meeting children in the Philippines who faced many challenges in terms of receiving valuable education. The Foundation partnered with the Virlanie Foundation, which addresses one of the greatest barriers to education for vulnerable children: the lack of official government documentation, including birth certificates, which prevents school enrollment. Rather than waiting for government intervention, Virlanie offers community-based educational opportunities through teachers who bring learning directly to these children.

The Kym Rapier Foundation's contribution included funding forty-four scholarships and purchasing a vehicle to support the organization's operational and logistical needs, allowing it to better serve children throughout the community.

"We're actually taking the school to them," she says. "We've provided vans for the teachers so they can begin their education while they're getting their paperwork."

Additionally, her innate care for animals turned into efforts to increase wildlife protection in places where many species are endangered or at risk of extinction.

Kym recently joined a longtime friend and marine researcher who studies whale sharks in the Galápagos before traveling south to document scientific research at the South Pole.

In pursuit of a deeper understanding of global conservation efforts, she recently traveled to Antarctica alongside her longtime friend and marine researcher, Jonathan Green, to observe and document scientific research taking place in the South Pole.

This expedition aligns with the Kym Rapier Foundation's mission of elevating important stories through world-class storytelling, bringing complex scientific research and conservation efforts to a broader audience through compelling photography, cinematography, and documentary storytelling.



WOMAN OF THE YEAR

The Foundation's role is to shine a light on the work of experts and researchers, helping educate and inspire the public by making their work more visible and accessible, rather than leading or conducting the scientific research itself.

"I've been friends with him and dove with him in the Galápagos for years," Rapier explains. "He's been doing studies on Antarctica and global warming, so we did a full interview with him and some scientists at the South Pole."



While she says the documentary is still in production and she has not yet seen the finished project, she describes the experience as an opportunity to hear directly from researchers studying the realities of climate change in one of the world's most remote environments.

As an acclaimed humanitarian, Rapier has spent years documenting both the breathtaking beauty of our planet and the people whose lives have been shaped by hardship and hope. Her work has expanded beyond humanitarian aid to include wildlife conservation and environmental stewardship, reinforcing her belief that caring for people and protecting the planet go hand in hand.

BOERNE MONTHLY Magazine



WOMAN OF THE YEAR

Whether she's diving alongside whale sharks in the Galápagos Islands, interviewing scientists at the South Pole about climate change, or bringing education to underserved children in Southeast Asia, her work is driven by one simple belief: stories have the power to inspire action.

She believes every image is an invitation for someone else to care.

"Stories have the power to connect people in ways that statistics can't," she says. "Photography allows us to capture moments of hope, resilience, and dignity. It's not about showing need, it's about showing possibility."

In an age dominated by digital media, Rapier believes photography, film, YouTube, and social media have become powerful tools for global philanthropy. By putting faces to challenges that often feel distant, visual storytelling transforms complex humanitarian issues into deeply personal experiences.

Today, storytelling has become one of the foundation's most powerful tools for philanthropy, using documentary filmmaking and photography to amplify grassroots organizations, elevate local voices, and inspire others to become part of the solution.

"When people see the faces behind the work," she says, "they begin to understand that philanthropy is personal. A single image or story can inspire someone to volunteer, donate, mentor, or simply care more deeply. Our goal is to tell stories that honor the people we're serving while inviting others to become part of something bigger than themselves."

Some of the most meaningful stories she tells come from communities where even the most basic opportunities are out of reach.

That same philosophy shapes the advice she offers to anyone wondering how they can make a difference.

"Don't wait," she says. "You don't have to start a foundation or travel around the world to make an impact. You can start right where you are. Find a cause that speaks to your heart, and then give your time, talents, and whatever resources you have to offer."

WOMAN OF THE YEAR





She believes even the smallest acts of kindness create ripple effects that extend far beyond what we can see.

"One little well can provide water for 9,000 people," she says. "Little things impact a lot of people."

For Rapier, the mission has never been about recognition. It has always been about inspiring others to take part.

"We're taking this seriously, and we're trying to make as much impact throughout the world as we can," she says. "I'm trying to inspire other people to join us because it takes a lot of people to make change. One person cannot do everything. We're trying to start an initiative for the whole world to jump in and start helping."

Those closest to Rapier often describe her as someone who doesn't simply fund projects—she shows up. Whether visiting remote villages, meeting with community leaders, documenting stories firsthand, or collaborating with local partners, she believes meaningful change begins with listening. As Kym Rapier continues to combine photography and humanitarian work, her greatest accomplishment may not be the remarkable images.

Through every story she tells, she reminds us that compassion is contagious—and that changing the world often begins with simply refusing to wait for things to change, but to BE the change you want to see in the world.

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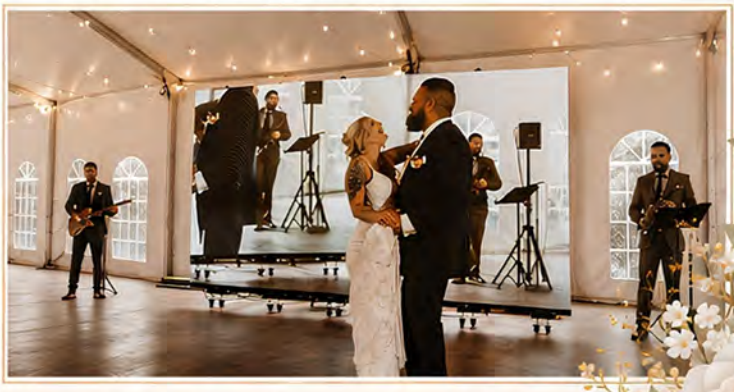
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BEST IN LAW 2026



Faster Isn't Better: *Speeding* Is a Leading Cause of *Car Crashes*

By Edna Elizondo
Boerne Monthly Contributor

If you're a Texas local, you probably know that often, people who drive the speed limit are constantly left in the dust by others who seem to have a lead foot. What those speeding drivers may not realize is that driving faster is not driving better. Speeding is one of the most dangerous driving behaviors, right up there with drunk and distracted driving. In fact, speeding is a leading cause of car crashes.

Why Is Speeding a Leading Cause of Car Crashes?

According to the National Safety Council (NSC), speed contributed to 29% of all motor vehicle fatalities in 2020. That means speeding played a major role in the deaths of over 30 people per day. But why is speeding a leading cause of car crashes?

1. Speeding Reduces Reaction Time

First, faster speeds reduce reaction time. A driver traveling at 45 mph has a lot more time to react to another driver slamming on their brakes than a driver traveling at 65 mph. Driving faster than the speed limit can reduce the critical reaction time that drivers need to stop or swerve to avoid a car crash. Many times, drivers who speed don't have enough time to react and end up crashing their vehicles.

2. Speeding Increases Stopping Distance

Speeding also increases a vehicle's stopping distance. Stopping distance is the total distance needed to bring a vehicle to a complete stop. The faster the vehicle travels, the more difficult it is to get that vehicle to slow down and stop completely. If a driver travels over the posted speed limit, they will not be able to stop as quickly as they should, which may cause a car crash.

3. Speeding Makes Controlling the Vehicle More Difficult

Drivers who speed lose control of their vehicles more easily. Since it's more difficult to stop the vehicle when speeding, drivers often have to slam on their brakes or swerve to avoid a crash. Unfortunately, braking hard and swerving can cause the driver to lose control and crash into other vehicles or structures

Edna Elizondo knows why *The Carlson Law Firm* has become a mainstay in *Boerne*.

What Makes Speeding So Dangerous?

Speeding makes controlling a vehicle more difficult, which is one major reason why speeding is a leading cause of car crashes. However, the real danger of speeding is how likely it is to cause injury or death in the event of a car crash.

Speeding Reduces Protection of Safety Structures

One reason speeding is so dangerous is that it reduces the effectiveness of road safety structures. Road safety structures such as guardrails, impact attenuators, crash cushions, median dividers, and concrete barriers are designed to protect vehicle occupants in a crash. However, if a vehicle hits a road safety structure at a speed faster than the speed it was designed to withstand, its ability to protect the passengers may be reduced.

Speeding Increases Chances of Injury and Death

Crashes where speeding is a contributing factor are often more severe and lead to more injuries and deaths. Why? Because of kinetic energy. In car crashes, every increase in velocity results in a squared increase in the energy released by the crash. An object doubling in speed has four times the amount of kinetic energy. Thus, a crash at 40 mph results in four times as powerful a collision as a crash at 20 mph. A greater release of kinetic energy leads to more severe injuries and deaths.









The Carlson Law Firm Can Help

The sad reality of speeding is that one person's disregard for the safety of others can cause tragic car accidents leading to severe injuries and death. At the Carlson Law Firm, we believe the injured victims shouldn't have to pay the price for the negligent actions of others.

If you or someone you love has been injured in a car crash, consider hiring a personal injury lawyer. Our caring and compassionate car crash lawyers have the skills and experience to help you recover the compensation you deserve.

Contact us at carlsonattorneys.com, call 833-4-CARLSON, or visit us at 1421 S Main Street, Suite 113 in Boerne.

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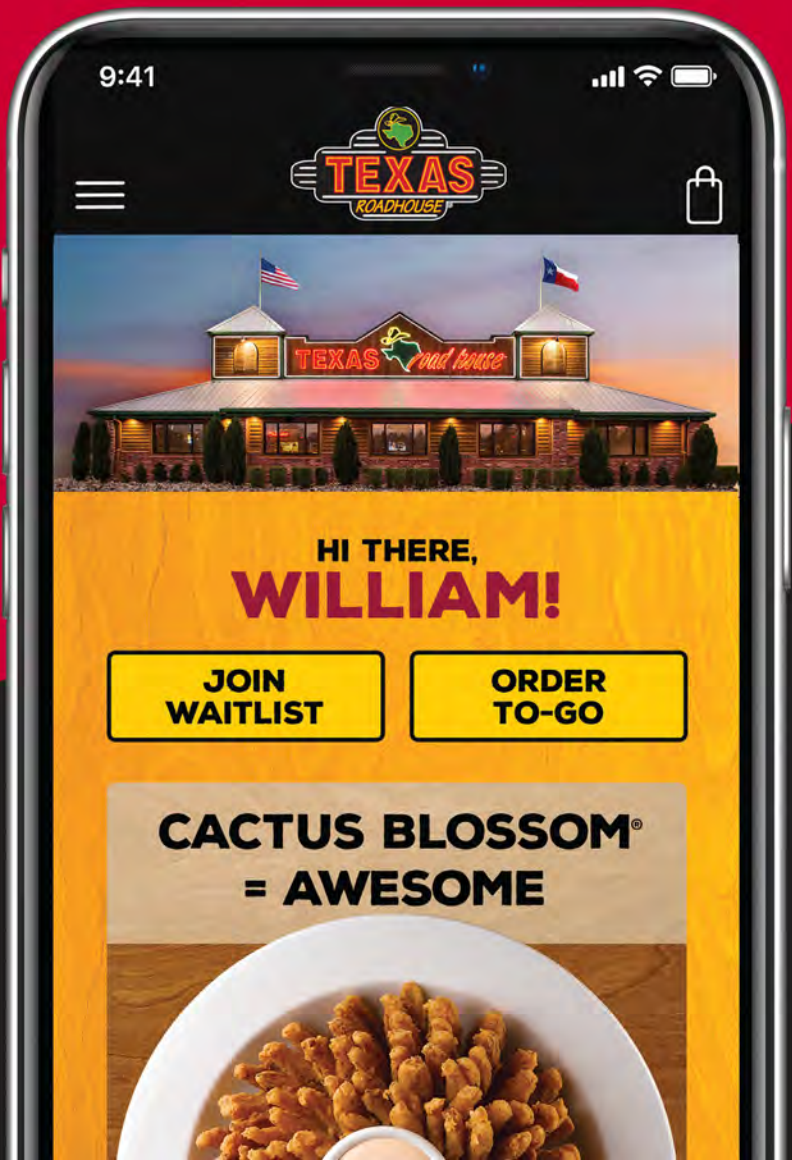
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STRENGTH IN THE STORM

Boerne Businesses Reeling from Flood Damage
by Jim Lefko, Contributor

COMMUNITY FEATURE



Courtesy of City of Boerne

STRENGTH IN THE *STORM*

Boerne Businesses *Reeling* from *Flood Damage*

By Jim Lefko
Boerne Monthly Contributor

Mandy Jones knows it could have been worse. Much worse. Still, the damage caused from floods triggered by more than a foot of rain in mid-July left her Boerne business reeling. Jones co-owns the Jones Christmas Ranch and Event Center with her husband Mike.

It's become a tradition over the past quarter century for Kendall County families to visit the ranch and experience the joy of the season via four million lights synchronized to music.

Jones says the massive flooding that ravaged the area took a toll on the roads that transport guests around the ranch. "Our 100-year dry creek turned into rushing rivers, and rushed over all of our roads. With what we do, Christmas-light drive through, our roads are everything to see all our lights and displays," she says.
Jones will never forget what she witnessed between July 13th and 15th.

"It was wild watching entire roads wash away. You are just amazed by the power of water. It makes you reflect how God's in control. We just trust in him that everything's going to be ok. There's always a reason for it. We need the water, we just ask him to slow it down a little bit, spread it out. It's just one of those things where you have to have faith and stick it out," she says.

The exact cost of the destruction is still to be determined. Jones knows it won't be cheap.
"We haven't gotten to that yet. A little nervous to see that honestly. We're hoping it's not crazy. We have no idea. I can tell you it was over $50,000 to do them the first time," she says.

The Event Center was also damaged. Several events have been cancelled, including volleyball tournaments and nonprofit events.

A handful of the attractions are missing too.
"We still have some Christmas deer and things all over the place. Some of them washed away and ended up in a dam, and we're missing like five deer. We have no idea where they went. They washed downstream apparently," she says.
While much work must be done in order for the ranch, located at 43360 I-10 W Frontage Road, to be operational by the holiday season, Jones is confident the Christmas spectacle will be accessible by winter.







"This put a little wrench into being ready on time for November," she says. "If we get in too much of a pickle, we will reach out for help to make sure that (the Ranch opens). We are a part of too many people's family tradition, doing this for decades now. There's no doubt in my mind (the Christmas show resumes)."

The Christmas Ranch is one of many Boerne-area businesses impacted by the flooding. Local residents also endured the ordeal but fortunately there was no loss of life, or even serious injuries in the city, according to Chris Shadrock, director of communication and civic engagement for the City of Boerne.

He praised the response of both emergency responders as well as residents who largely avoided the flooded areas and low water crossings.

"We were incredibly prepared. Obviously, we had the luxury of the forecast. The only unknown at the time was the meteorologists were saying (they didn't) know exactly where it's going to rain and when, but once it did, you kind of know the shot clock is on," Shadrock said.

"With that first batch of rain coming through (on July 13th), we very quickly fully activated the emergency operations center. It had already been operating the night before in a virtual setting. We were already in constant communication with our emergency personnel. We had pre-deployed road barriers to close flooded streets. By the time Wednesday came about, we were there. It worked like a well-oiled machine."

The storm came literally in waves. On the 13th, three to four inches of rain fell. On the 15th, another 9 to 10 inches of rain flooded the streets.

Shadrock said 53 people found their way to the city's evacuation sites. Many of the evacuees were residents of apartments along River Road. He said 30 people were assisted by the National Guard to the shelters.
"By 6 o'clock, all of them had been able to find housing for the evening," he said.

There were also three high-water rescues where people were trapped in flooded streets.
"We had one on Adler Road, then we had two near the intersection of River Road and Herff Road. Crews were able to go out there and get the drivers out of their vehicles and to safety," Shadrock said.

Because Boerne has had multiple floods over the years, emergency service staffers know where the trouble spots are. Long-time residents also have learned what areas of the city to avoid when torrential downpours occur.

"We have a lot of experience with flash flooding back centuries or decades," Shadrock said, listing 1997, 1998, 2002, 2015, "and now 2026 is going to be added to that list."

Shadrock said this year's weather event was much more impactful in the City of Boerne than the storm a year ago. "By far this was exponentially worse in the city of Boerne what we experienced. The July Fourth (2025) floods in the Texas Hill Country as a whole had very minimal impact on the City of Boerne. Over the course of that week and weekend we received about an inch or two of rain.
"A lot of folks learned from last year that it really does matter where it rains because where those creeks and streams and rivers all channel is what really impacts you at home. A lot of the rain was just to the west and north of Boerne. That is in the prime watershed area of where the water will naturally funnel into the city. So that's what we saw."

Despite the deluge, the switch to cleanup and rebuilding damaged areas occurred quickly. All low-water crossings reopened within a week, with the exception of Adler Road, where a culvert project that had been started sustained damage.

Debris has been removed from the city's parks and right-of-way areas.

"I've got to hand it to our parks and streets departments," Shadrock said. "They got River Road Park reopened less than 48 hours after the entire park was completely under water."

Boerne City Lake peaked at 140 percent of capacity immediately after the July 15th storm, releasing excess water into both the primary and secondary spillways as it was designed to do. Boerne City Lake Park, however, was still closed 10 days after the flood for additional repair work and cleanup.

City officials always learn lessons when emergencies occur. The flood of 2026 is no exception.

"This is the first time I've utilized the emergency alert system telling folks this is truly a life-or-death situation, especially if you live along a creek or a stream," Shadrock said. "The takeaway from that is not only does the system we have in place work, but it's going to be more of a refinement of a process that I think worked really well."

The city's debris drop off site is available through the end of July to anyone with proof of residency.
For the latest updates, go to myboernenews.com for current flood-related information.

To put the 2026 flood in perspective, Mandy Jones summed up the sentiments of Boerne residents this way: "Everyone's safe," she says, "so that's all that matters."

CITY OF Boerne










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What Accomplishment Are You Most Proud Of?

The accomplishment I am most proud of is winning the American Conference Championship with UTSA soccer in 2025.

What do you consider your biggest success?

My greatest success in college soccer wouldn't just be the awards or individual recognition, it would be being part of, and helping lead, a team that wins championships. I want to be remembered as someone who brought the right mentality every day: hardworking, selfless, competitive and committed to making everyone around me better. Success is about more than personal achievements, it's about creating a culture of accountability, resilience and trust that allows the entire team to reach its highest potential. If I can help lead a team to championships while leaving a lasting impact on my teammates and program, that will be the accomplishment I'm most proud of.

What obstacles have you had to overcome?

I've had to overcome a lot of adversity with a couple of season-ending injuries. I tore my right ACL twice within a year, which put me out of competition for 2.5 years. Since then, I've needed multiple knee injections to keep playing. I am so incredibly grateful for every single person who got me back on the field so I can chase my dreams and play the sport I love.

Why did you choose UTSA?

When I decided to transfer from Texas Tech, I knew immediately that I wanted to go to UTSA. This opportunity gave me the chance to come back home and play in front of my family and friends. My sister also played soccer for UTSA and after seeing her play for an amazing coaching staff and an amazing culture, I knew that this is where I wanted to be.

What Is Your Message To Fans/Supporters About Your Team?

This team is one of the hardest-working teams I've ever been on. Every single person who is a part of this team, players and staff, is bought into what we are doing here. We want to give it our all in everything that we do so we can ultimately come out and perform for ourselves and for every single person who supports us. We also know we couldn't do this without the incredible support we get from our amazing fans.


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What softball accomplishment are you most proud of?

Making it to the Division 1 level. It took years of hard work, sacrifice, and dedication, and I'm proud that all of that effort paid off.

What do you consider your biggest success?

Being named to an All Freshman Team. It was a rewarding moment because it showed me that my hard work made an impact and motivated me to keep improving.

What obstacles have you had to overcome?

Balancing being a Division I student athlete while keeping up with school, training, and making time for my family and friends. Learning how to manage my time has been one of my biggest challenges.

Why did you choose UTSA?

I chose UTSA because from the beginning it felt like more than a volleyball program. The team welcomed me like family, and the coaches truly care about us, both as athletes and as people. They push us to be our best while making our health and well-being a priority.

What Is Your Message To Fans/Supporters About Your Team?

Keep showing up and cheering us on. Your support gives us extra motivation every time we step on the court. We can't wait to make you proud this season! GO BIRDS!!

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COREFIT PILATES & BARRE

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Finding Strength in a Different Way
Discovering Pilates at *COREFIT Pilates & Barre*

By Sandra Trevino
Boerne Monthly Contributor

"You have to try Pilates."

Over the past year, I'd heard my friend Catherine Stephens say those words more than once. She had become a regular at COREFIT Pilates & Barre and couldn't stop talking about how much stronger and better she felt.

After nearly 30 years of traditional weight training and walking on the treadmill, I finally decided it was time to see what all the excitement was about.

At 49 years old, I wasn't looking to reinvent my fitness routine. I simply wanted to see if Pilates could add something my traditional weight training program couldn't.

Stepping into COREFIT Pilates & Barre in Boerne for my first class, I quickly realized Pilates was nothing like I expected.

Like many people, I assumed Pilates was mostly stretching and flexibility. Instead, I quickly discovered muscles I don't normally engage during my traditional weight training routine. Every movement required focus, balance, control and core engagement. The workout wasn't about lifting heavy weights. It was about moving with precision, and that proved to be surprisingly challenging.

One person who made that first experience enjoyable was instructor Lauren Ybarra. Her encouragement, attention to detail and ability to guide each movement made what could have been an intimidating introduction feel welcoming and approachable. Throughout the session, she emphasized proper form while creating an atmosphere that was both supportive and encouraging.

Finding Strength in a Different Way
Discovering Pilates at *COREFIT Pilates & Barre*

One of the biggest surprises for me was how quickly exercises that looked graceful and effortless when Lauren demonstrated them became incredibly challenging once it was my turn. Maintaining proper form, controlling each movement and resisting the urge to rush through an exercise required far more concentration than I expected. In the weight room, my focus is often on lifting heavier or completing another repetition. Pilates challenged me to slow down, engage my core and become much more intentional with every movement. It was a completely different kind of workout, and one that gave me a whole new appreciation for the importance of control, stability and body awareness.



Although I've only been practicing Pilates for a few weeks, I've already noticed that it challenges my body differently than traditional strength training. Rather than relying on heavier weights, every movement emphasizes stability, alignment and body awareness. It's given me a new appreciation for how important those elements are, both inside and outside the gym.



For Catherine, Pilates has become much more than a workout.

Having grown up in dance and cheer, fitness had always been a part of her life. But as she got older, recurring back issues and sciatica made many of the high-impact classes she once enjoyed increasingly difficult.

"I realized Pilates gave me exactly what I was looking for," she said. "It challenged me, helped me build strength, especially in my core and back, improved my flexibility, and did it all without beating up my body."



Finding Strength in a Different Way
Discovering Pilates at *COREFIT Pilates & Barre*

Like many first-time participants, Catherine admits the Reformer looked intimidating at first. She credits the knowledgeable instructors at COREFIT with giving her the confidence to stick with it.

Over the past year, Catherine says she's noticed significant improvements in her core strength, muscle tone, flexibility and overall mobility. More importantly, she says she simply feels better.

"As a woman in my early 50s, I realize how important it is to maintain strength, flexibility and mobility so I can continue doing the things I love for years to come."

She also has simple advice for anyone who's curious about Pilates but isn't sure it's for them.

"I'd tell them to just give it a try. I think a lot of people assume Pilates is only for certain fitness levels or certain age groups, but that's not true at all. It's truly for everyone."

As someone whose fitness routine has always centered around weight training, I was curious how Pilates fit alongside lifting weights.

According to COREFIT Owner and CEO Kristin Ortiz, the two complement each other exceptionally well.

"Strength training builds muscle through load and tension, while Pilates focuses on the foundation, core strength, stability, mobility, alignment and body awareness," Ortiz explained. "When those foundational pieces are in place, you move better, lift better, get better results and reduce your risk of injury."

Ortiz says Pilates doesn't replace strength training. Instead, it enhances it by strengthening the deep stabilizing muscles, improving posture, increasing joint stability and helping people move more efficiently, not only during workouts but in everyday life.

Founded 14 years ago, COREFIT has grown into one of San Antonio's first boutique Pilates and Barre studios. Today, it operates locations in Boerne, Alamo Heights and Alon Town Centre. Ortiz says the studio's mission has always been to meet clients wherever they are in their fitness journey while creating a welcoming and supportive community.

After just a few weeks, I understand why so many people have embraced Pilates as part of their fitness routine.

Will Pilates replace my time in the weight room? Not a chance.

But it has absolutely earned a place alongside it.



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BOERNE MONTHLY Magazine

NOURISH WELL WITH NOELLE

Noelle Gardner
Wellness Contributor

POWERHOUSE PINK SUMMER



Ingredients

1 pink grapefruit, peeled
1 cup seedless watermelon
1 small cucumber
1 crisp green apple
Juice of ½ fresh lime
1-inch piece fresh ginger
8–10 fresh mint leaves
Ice for serving

Directions

Wash all produce well. Juice the grapefruit, watermelon, cucumber, apple, and ginger. Stir in the fresh lime juice, pour over ice, and garnish with a sprig of mint and a slice of grapefruit or lime.



OVER NIGHT RIDE ALONG

Sandra Trevino shadows DWI Enforcement Operation Bexar County Precinct 3

MAGAZINE EXCLUSIVE

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Firm. Fair. *Consistent.*

An Overnight Ride Along with the Bexar County Precinct 3 Constable's Office

By Sandra Trevino
Boerne Monthly Contributor

"Firm. Fair. Consistent."

Those were the three words Deputy Joel Arroyo used to describe his approach to policing before we rolled out just after 8 p.m. for a targeted overnight DWI enforcement operation.

By the end of the night, I understood exactly what he meant.

Most people only see the flashing lights after a traffic stop. What they don't see are the hours leading up to that moment, the countless decisions deputies make throughout the night, or everything that happens after someone is taken into custody.

Thanks to an invitation from Constable Mark Vojvodich, I had the unique opportunity to spend nearly eight hours alongside the men and women of the Bexar County Precinct 3 Constable's Office as they worked to identify impaired drivers and keep our community safe.

Constable Vojvodich emphasized that impaired driving remains a serious and preventable threat in Bexar County.

"In 2024, Bexar County recorded 1,654 alcohol-related crashes, including 58 fatal crashes that claimed 64 lives and left more than 860 people injured," he said. "Reducing those numbers requires a balanced approach that combines driver education, public awareness and consistent, highly visible DWI enforcement."

As the night unfolded, those statistics became much more than numbers.

After evening roll call, I climbed into Deputy Arroyo's patrol vehicle as he notified dispatch that a civilian observer would be accompanying him. Then we headed into the night.

Deputy Arroyo, an Army veteran and Field Training Officer, explained that every traffic stop begins with a simple traffic violation. It might be speeding, failing to

signal, running a stop sign or driving without headlights. But what deputies never know is who, or what, they are about to encounter when they step out of their vehicle.

That uncertainty became the theme of the evening.

Over the next several hours, I watched stop after stop unfold. Some motorists received warnings. Others received citations. Every encounter was different, yet Deputy Arroyo approached each one with the same calm demeanor.

One driver had been clocked traveling 80 miles per hour in a 60 mile per hour zone. As Deputy Arroyo explained the violation, the passenger questioned why another speeding vehicle hadn't also been stopped.

His response was simple.

"Ma'am, I can only stop one vehicle at a time."

There was no argument. No raised voice. Just a calm explanation before returning to the business at hand.

Another stop involved a driver who simply hadn't realized the headlights weren't on. It ended with a warning and a reminder to drive safely.



Watching those interactions, I realized traffic enforcement isn't simply about writing tickets. It's about making decisions, using discretion and treating people with respect while never losing sight of officer safety.

Later in the evening, we observed a pickup truck weaving along the roadway.

After making contact with the driver, Deputy Arroyo began standardized field sobriety testing. Watching it in person was far different than the brief clips often shown on television. Every instruction was deliberate. Every observation was documented. Every step followed established procedures.

The driver was arrested for Driving While Intoxicated.

What surprised me most was that the arrest wasn't the end of the story.

It was only the beginning.

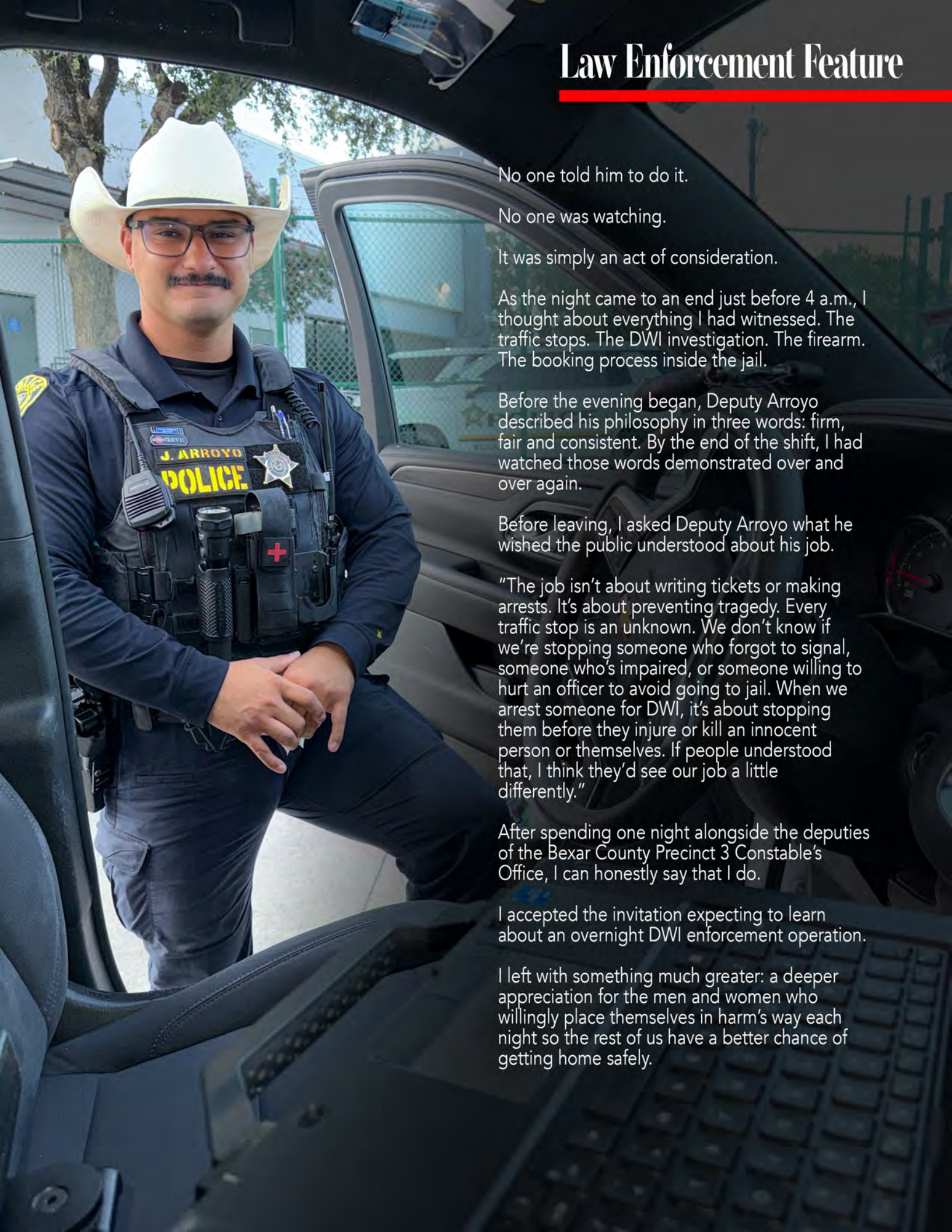
At the Bexar County Jail, I watched the booking process from start to finish. Before the booking process was complete, the driver submitted to a breath test that registered more than twice the legal limit. What made that result even more sobering was that more than an hour had passed since we had stopped him. Despite the passage of time, his blood alcohol concentration remained well over the legal limit.

Deputy Arroyo then completed the paperwork, inventoried the driver's personal property, took fingerprints and photographs, and finished the booking process. Every step was carefully documented, leaving little to chance.

During the inventory of the driver's truck, deputies also recovered a firearm that had to be secured before the vehicle was impounded. It was another reminder that what begins as a routine traffic stop can quickly become something much more serious.

Yet the moment that stayed with me had nothing to do with the firearm or the arrest itself.

Before placing the driver's belongings into a property bag, Deputy Arroyo noticed the man's cell phone was still powered on. He quietly turned it off before sealing the bag so there would still be battery life when the driver was eventually released.



No one told him to do it.

No one was watching.

It was simply an act of consideration.

As the night came to an end just before 4 a.m., I thought about everything I had witnessed. The traffic stops. The DWI investigation. The firearm. The booking process inside the jail.

Before the evening began, Deputy Arroyo described his philosophy in three words: firm, fair and consistent. By the end of the shift, I had watched those words demonstrated over and over again.

Before leaving, I asked Deputy Arroyo what he wished the public understood about his job.

"The job isn't about writing tickets or making arrests. It's about preventing tragedy. Every traffic stop is an unknown. We don't know if we're stopping someone who forgot to signal, someone who's impaired, or someone willing to hurt an officer to avoid going to jail. When we arrest someone for DWI, it's about stopping them before they injure or kill an innocent person or themselves. If people understood that, I think they'd see our job a little differently."

After spending one night alongside the deputies of the Bexar County Precinct 3 Constable's Office, I can honestly say that I do.

I accepted the invitation expecting to learn about an overnight DWI enforcement operation.

I left with something much greater: a deeper appreciation for the men and women who willingly place themselves in harm's way each night so the rest of us have a better chance of getting home safely.


POLICE


2403
POLICE

BOERNE *SOCIETY*

Honoring Those Who Serve

The 53rd Annual Heroes Luncheon celebrated extraordinary acts of courage while reaffirming the 100 Club of San Antonio's unwavering commitment to supporting first responders and their families.

Every day, first responders answer calls that most of us hope we never have to make. They rush toward danger without hesitation, placing the safety of complete strangers ahead of their own. For more than five decades, the 100 Club of San Antonio has ensured that when tragedy strikes those heroes, their families are never left to face it alone.

That mission was celebrated during the 53rd Annual Heroes Luncheon, held at The Ralston, where community leaders, first responders, supporters, and donors gathered to recognize extraordinary acts of bravery while remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

Founded in 1973, the 100 Club of San Antonio provides immediate financial assistance to the families of law enforcement officers and firefighters who are killed or catastrophically injured in the line of duty. The organization's commitment extends well beyond emergency assistance, offering educational scholarships for surviving children, wellness initiatives, and ongoing support for first responders and their loved ones. It is a mission rooted in gratitude, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to those who dedicate their lives to protecting others.







BOERNE *SOCIETY*



Throughout the luncheon, guests reflected on the courage, selflessness, and professionalism displayed daily by the men and women who serve our communities. Officers and firefighters were recognized for heroic actions performed under extraordinary circumstances, acts requiring split-second decisions, unwavering composure, and a willingness to place themselves in harm's way for the sake of others.

Among this year's honorees were Officer Noel Mercado of the San Antonio Police Department, who received the Act of Valor Award for his heroic actions while apprehending an armed suspect at great personal risk, and Engineer Andrea Vega of the San Antonio Fire Department, recipient of the Excellence in EMS Award for her exceptional commitment to duty, professionalism, and outstanding service in Emergency Medical Services. Their recognition reflects the extraordinary courage, compassion, and dedication demonstrated every day by the men and women who answer the call to serve.

One of the afternoon's most meaningful moments came as the 100 Club presented scholarships to the daughters of two fallen San Antonio firefighters. The scholarships represent far more than financial assistance, they are a lasting investment in the futures of families whose lives were forever changed by sacrifice and a powerful reminder that those left behind will never be forgotten.

The event also drew strong support from civic and public safety leaders throughout the region. Among those in attendance were State Representative Marc LaHood, San Antonio City Council Member Misty Spears, Bexar County Commissioner Grant Moody, congressional candidate Brandon Herrera, San Antonio Police Chief William McManus, and San Antonio Fire Chief Valarie Frausto. Their presence, alongside law enforcement executives, fire service leadership, corporate partners, and community supporters, reflected a shared commitment to honoring those who serve and protecting the families who stand beside them.

As applause filled The Ralston throughout the afternoon, the true message of the Heroes Luncheon became clear. Heroism is measured not only by extraordinary moments of courage, but also by the strength of a community that remembers, supports, and stands beside those who answer the call to serve.

Year after year, the Heroes Luncheon reminds us that behind every badge is a person, behind every uniform is a family, and behind every act of bravery is a community determined to ensure that sacrifice is never forgotten. Through the work of the 100 Club of San Antonio, those heroes and the loved ones who support them can be assured they will never stand alone.

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TEAM SAFETY TRAINING

Learning to Lead Through Service
SAPD Public Safety Corps

BY SANDRA TREVINO

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BOERNE'S #1 CONTEMPORARY MAGAZINE



Learning To *Lead* Through *Service*

By Sandra Trevino
Boerne Monthly Contributor

Through the San Antonio Police Department's Public Safety Corps, young people gain the leadership skills, discipline and real-world experience that prepare them to serve their communities.

Long before they are old enough to wear a San Antonio Police Department badge, members of the SAPD Public Safety Corps are already stepping up as leaders in their community.

Formerly known as the Police Explorers, the program introduces young people ages 14 to 20 to careers in law enforcement while emphasizing leadership, discipline, responsibility and community service. Guided by experienced SAPD officers, participants receive hands-on exposure to the profession through mentorship, training exercises, volunteer opportunities and ceremonial events that reinforce the values of public service.

These young leaders don't simply learn about policing, they learn what it means to serve.

Those qualities were on full display during this year's Fallen Officer Memorial at the San Antonio Police Academy.

While officers, families and community members gathered to honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice, Public Safety Corps members worked quietly behind the scenes to help ensure the ceremony ran smoothly. They greeted guests, distributed commemorative programs, assisted visitors with directions throughout the memorial grounds and tied yellow remembrance ribbons around the trees in preparation for the ceremony.

Although these tasks may seem simple, they reflect one of the program's most important lessons: every role in public service matters. Whether helping a visitor find a seat, preparing the memorial grounds or welcoming attendees, participants learn that serving others often happens away from the spotlight.

Their work at the memorial represents only a small part of the program. Throughout the year, Public Safety Corps members participate in leadership development, physical fitness, hands-on law enforcement scenarios, community service projects and specialized demonstrations with SAPD units. They also represent San Antonio at regional competitions, where they apply the skills they've learned while building confidence, teamwork and professionalism.

Many participants eventually pursue careers in law enforcement, while others carry the values they develop into different professions. Regardless of where life takes them, they leave the program with a greater appreciation for integrity, accountability and service to others.



Officer Christopher Redman, Lead Advisor for the SAPD Public Safety Corps, says one of the most rewarding aspects of the program is watching young people grow into future leaders.

"I really enjoy working with the Public Safety Corps program," Redman said. "I especially enjoy knowing that I am helping to shape the the future of our department."

One particularly meaningful moment from the memorial captured a veteran SAPD officer shaking hands with a Public Safety Corps member in front of the Fallen Officer Memorial. The simple gesture symbolized something much larger: the passing of knowledge, mentorship and tradition from one generation to the next.

As officers remembered those who gave their lives in the line of duty, these young men and women witnessed firsthand the responsibility and sacrifice that accompany the badge. They weren't merely volunteering at an event; they were learning the traditions of a profession built on service, honor and commitment to the community.

Programs like the SAPD Public Safety Corps do more than introduce young people to careers in law enforcement. They help shape future leaders by teaching discipline, teamwork, respect and civic responsibility, qualities that strengthen not only police departments, but the communities they serve.

For these young participants, the Fallen Officer Memorial was more than a day of service. It was a lesson in honoring the past while preparing to serve the future.








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BOERNE *SOCIETY*

A PATRIOTIC TRADITION WITH MY FAVORITE RUNNING PARTNER

There are plenty of ways to celebrate the Fourth of July, but for my West Highland Terrier, Dixie Belle, and me, one tradition has become a favorite.

This year marked Dixie Belle's fourth time participating in Boerne's annual Flag Run 5K. At just four years old, she's already a seasoned veteran of the event, and she wouldn't dream of showing up in anything other than her patriotic red, white, and blue dress.

Dixie has become something of a regular at the race. Every year she proudly wears the official race bib while I go without, and it never fails to make people smile. Between her patriotic dress, finisher's medal, and race number, she's convinced she's the real athlete in the family.

One of my favorite moments comes before the race even begins. Looking up to see the enormous American flag suspended above the starting area by the Boerne Fire Department's ladder truck never gets old. It's a powerful reminder that the morning is about much more than running. It's about community, patriotism, and honoring those who serve.

After crossing the finish line, Dixie happily posed for photos with firefighters, police officers, and countless spectators who couldn't resist stopping to meet the little Westie in the patriotic dress. Watching families, veterans, neighbors, and first responders come together to celebrate America's birthday is what makes this event so special year after year.

We'll gladly add another finisher's medal to Dixie's growing collection, and if her tail wagging is any indication, she'll be back next Fourth of July proudly wearing that race bib once again.





BOERNE *SOCIETY*



BOERNE MONTHLY
Magazine



EDQUISITIVE MONTESSORI

Melissa Zamora
Chief Operating Officer

NEW EDUCATION COLUMN

New Education Column

EARLY CHILDHOOD · DEVELOPMENT

Feedback: The Gift We Hand Our Children Every Day

We respond to children hundreds of times a day. The research on what those responses actually teach is more surprising — and more actionable — than most parents realize.

By **Sarit Kapur** · Founder, Edquisitive Montessori

"Good job." "Be careful." "Not like that — here, let me." We give our children feedback all day long. But what is that feedback actually teaching them?

You have probably said all three of those today. I certainly have — and, if I am honest, I have been guilty of both extremes. At home, I could be the demanding parent who always saw what could be better. In the classroom, I was the opposite: "good job," "good job," "good job," a hundred times a day. It took me a long time to notice I was doing either one, let alone to ask whether it was working.

The words come automatically. A child stacks a tower of blocks — higher, wobblier, one block at a time — and before you have decided what to say, it comes out: **"Good job! You're so smart!"**

There is nothing wrong with wanting to encourage a child; those words come from love. But they may also teach something we never intended. We tend to treat feedback as encouragement, where more must be better. I have come to see it differently. Feedback is a gift — and every time we respond to a child, we hand them something.

Sometimes it is confidence. Sometimes it is curiosity. Sometimes, without meaning to, it is a fear of getting things wrong.

The words take a second to say. What they build can last much longer.

Maria Montessori understood that an adult's response could strengthen a child's independence — or quietly replace it. She believed children reveal one of their deepest developmental needs in a single plea:

> *"Help me to do it alone."*
>
> — Maria Montessori

That reframes the adult's job. It is not to withdraw, and not to take over — but to give exactly enough help for a child to move forward on the part they cannot yet do, and no more. So the question was never *whether* we give children feedback. We cannot avoid it. The question is what we are handing them.



Sometimes the most useful response begins with watching. A guide stays close, ready to help, without becoming the obstacle between the child and the work.

01 / THE PRAISE PROBLEM

The trouble with “you’re so smart”

There is a study I return to often. Researchers Claudia Mueller and Carol Dweck gave fifth-grade students a set of problems. After the children succeeded, some were praised for intelligence — “you must be smart at these problems” — and others for effort: “you must have worked hard at these problems.”

Then the work got harder. The children praised for intelligence were less likely to persist after struggling. They enjoyed the task less, performed worse afterward, and were more likely to choose an easier task that would help them keep looking smart. All of it followed one brief sentence of praise.

AFTER A HARDER TASK

Children praised for **intelligence** showed:

- Less persistence
- Less enjoyment
- Lower subsequent performance
- Greater preference for easier tasks

*Children praised for **effort** remained more engaged after difficulty.*

Mueller & Dweck, 1998

When we tell a child “you’re so smart,” we give them a label. It may feel good, but now they have to protect it. The next time something feels hard, the child faces an unspoken risk: *if I try and fail, maybe I am not smart after all.* Avoiding the challenge can feel safer.

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The answer is not to stop encouraging children. It is to make encouragement specific — to notice what they *did* rather than judge who they *are*.



Children need honest feedback and visible warmth. The two belong together.

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VEGAS *SOCIETY*

THE VANDERPUMP HOTEL
LAS VEGAS' LUXE NEW RESORT & CASINO

Las Vegas has a new go-to hotel that oozes elegance and over-the-top glamour. A top-notch level of hospitality that fans have come to expect from reality TV icon and businesswoman Lisa Vanderpump.

What was once The Cromwell has been transformed into The Vanderpump Hotel, featuring lush décor, sparkling chandeliers, luxurious velvet touches, and Instagram-worthy backdrops at every corner. The boutique-style property captures Vanderpump's signature aesthetic, being both glamorous and grandiose, with every inch of the property carefully curated down to the smallest detail.

The Vanderpump Hotel is Lisa Vanderpump's first-ever hotel and another milestone in her growing hospitality empire. Located in the heart of the Las Vegas Strip, the hotel is not far from her other business ventures, Vanderpump Cocktail Garden at Caesars Palace, Vanderpump à Paris at Paris Las Vegas, and Pinky's by Vanderpump at Flamingo Las Vegas. Now she's taking that same signature style and attention to detail beyond restaurants and lounges and creating an elevated hotel guest experience.

The Vanderpump Hotel offers an intimate boutique experience with just 188 guest rooms and 21 suites. The rooms have all been completely redesigned with custom furnishings, plush bedding, and elegant touches. Shades of lavender, deep plum, gold, and cream flow throughout the hotel, creating an atmosphere that's both sophisticated yet chic.

Subtle nods to her beloved pups can be found, with artwork, sculptures, and portraits scattered throughout the property—an ode to Vanderpump's love for her own pets and the countless animals she helps through The Vanderpump Dog Foundation.

Upon entering Vanderpump Hotel, you'll find the ritzy bar Gigolo, that sets the tone for your hotel stay. When you walk into the intimate lounge, you are drawn in by the dramatic, circular-shaped bar, glowing crystal lights, and plush velvet furniture. At the center of the bar sits a giant statue of "Giggy," Vanderpump's beloved Pomeranian who became a fan favorite on The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills and Vanderpump Rules. The cocktail menu features signature drinks with names like Talk Dirty To Me, Slow Burn, Hush Hush, and the iconic Pumptini. There's even an interactive feature called the Vanderpump Vault, where guests can write down a secret and lock it away.



VEGAS *SOCIETY*

THE VANDERPUMP HOTEL
LAS VEGAS' LUXE NEW RESORT & CASINO

Celebrity chef Giada De Laurentiis' restaurant, Giada, is sticking around and will continue to be one of the hotel's biggest draws, serving elevated Italian cuisine with panoramic views overlooking the Strip. Although Drai's Nightclub is no longer, after dinner or a night on the town, guests can head down to the basement to Drai's After Hours, one of Las Vegas' most legendary late-night clubs, where the party keeps going well into the wee hours of the morning.

The biggest surprise is that the hotel is fairly affordable. Depending on the time of year, weekday room rates often begin in the low-to-mid $200 range, making it a solid option to enjoy a luxury boutique experience without paying premium Strip prices. The Vanderpump Hotel officially celebrated its grand opening on June 11 with a star-studded red carpet packed with celebrities, reality TV personalities, and familiar faces from Vanderpump's television universe. Among those walking the carpet were Lance Bass and husband Michael Turchin, Sharon Osbourne, former Girls Next Door star Holly Madison,

The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills star Garcelle Beauvais, and Vanderpump Rules personalities Tom Sandoval, James Kennedy, and Peter Madrigal. They were joined by dozens of Las Vegas entertainers, influencers, and socialites who came out to celebrate the highly anticipated opening.

If you're looking to make a Las Vegas getaway, The Vanderpump Hotel has a little something for everyone. The property focuses on boutique luxury, elevated hospitality, and stylish aesthetics, perfect for your IG carousel. Whether you're relaxing in one of the beautifully designed rooms or sipping cocktails under the sparkling chandeliers, Vanderpump Hotel is worth seeing for yourself!



VEGAS *SOCIETY*



VEGAS *SOCIETY*



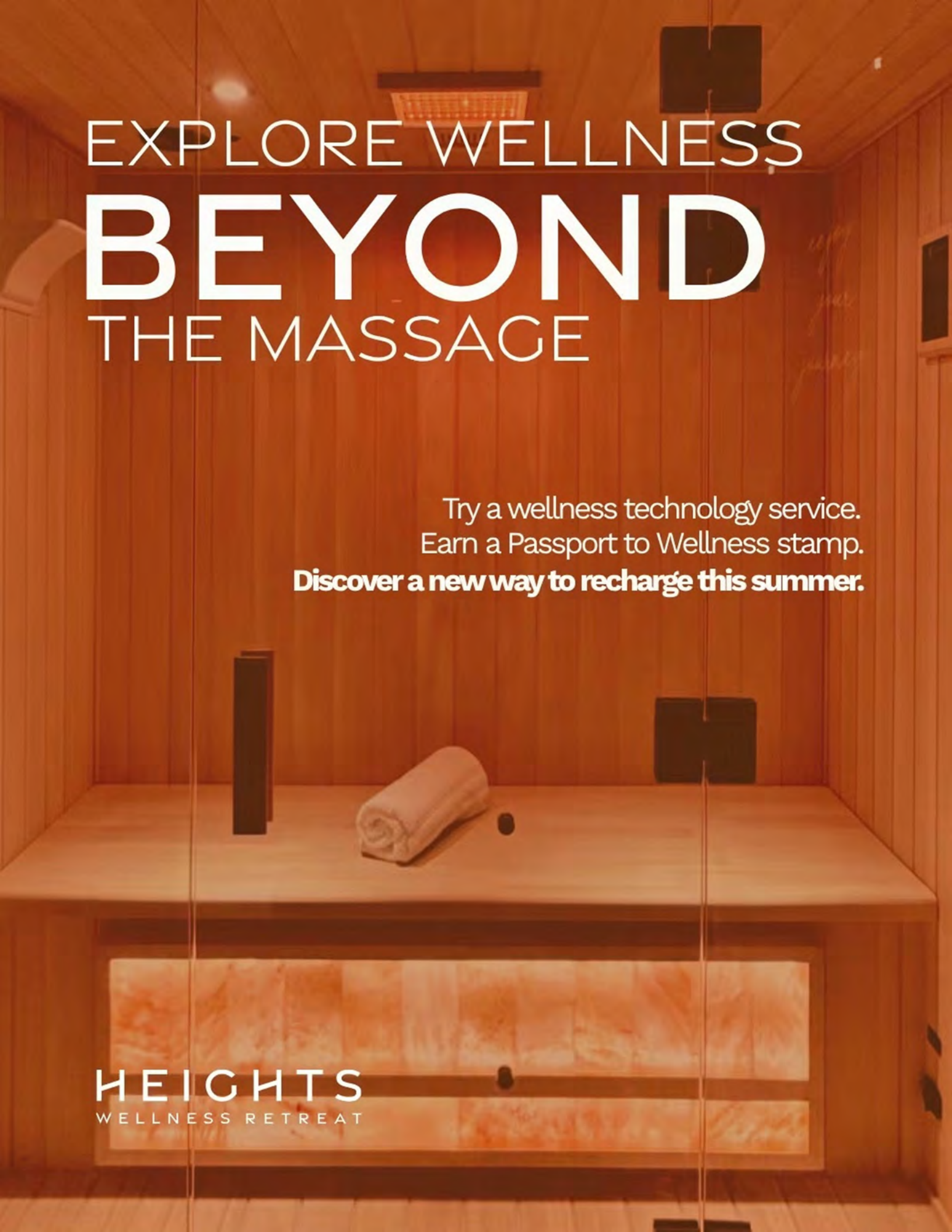
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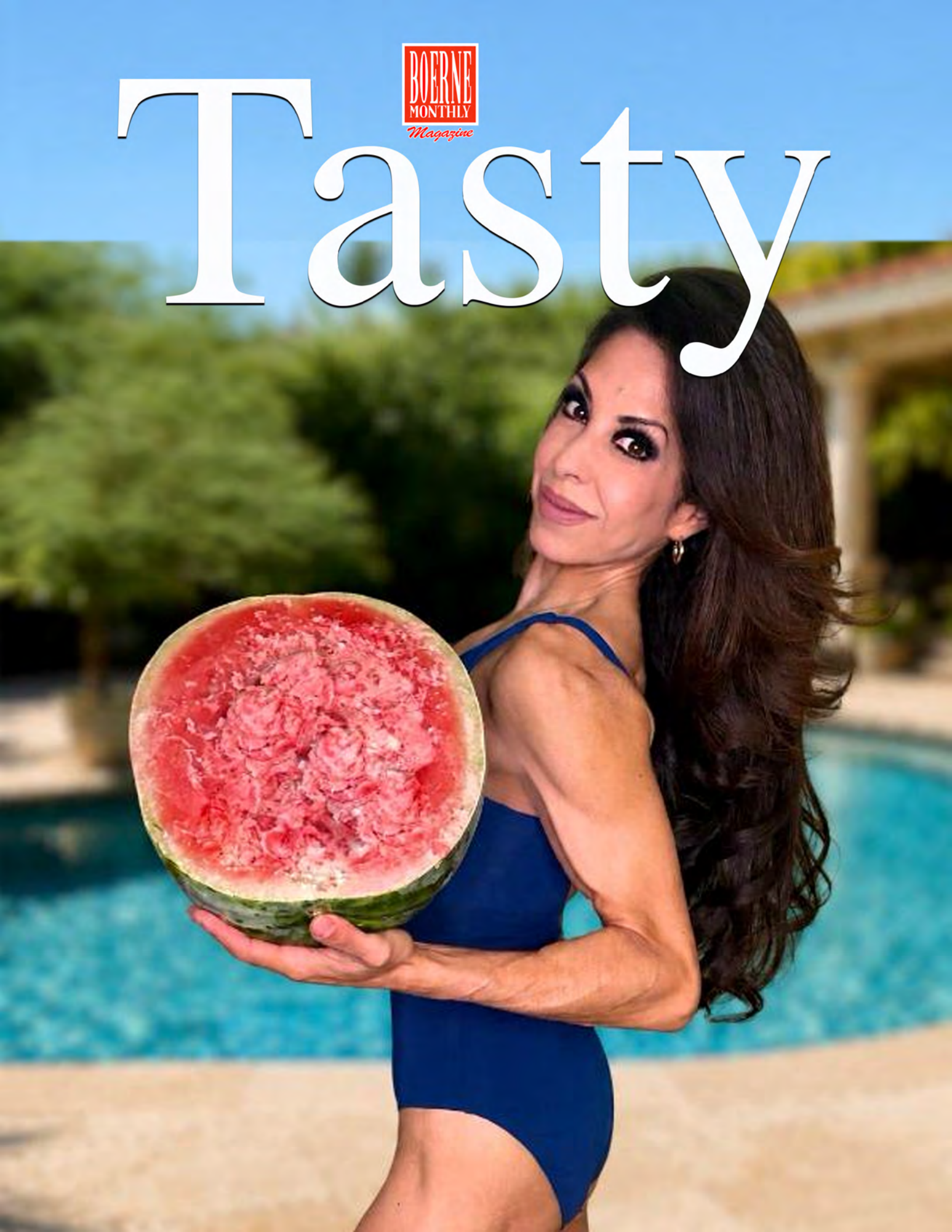





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BOERNE MONTHLY Magazine

Tasty



2-Ingredient Watermelon Ice Cream

Ingredients

½ seedless watermelon
1 cup heavy whipping cream

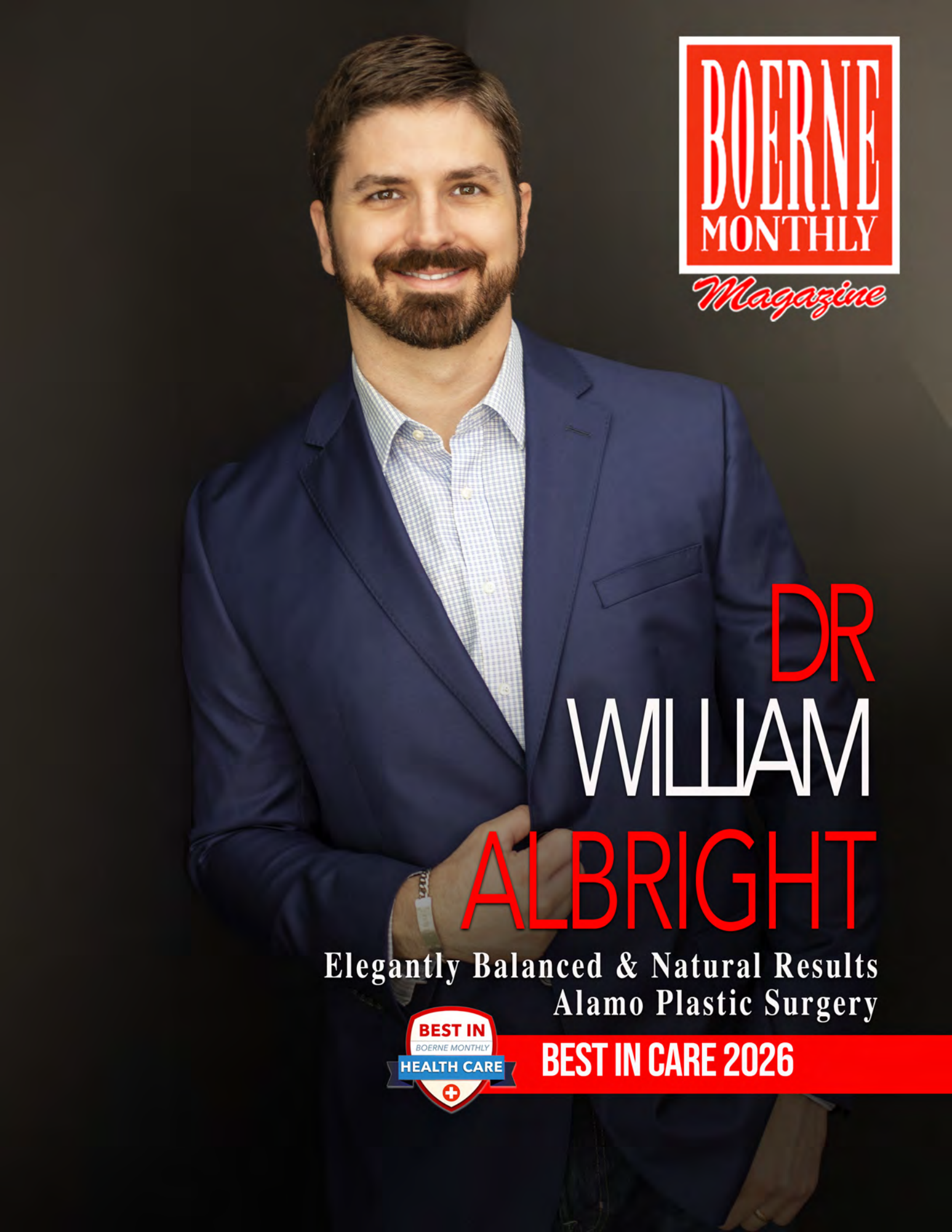
Instructions

1. Freeze the watermelon half overnight, or until completely frozen.
2. Lightly scrape the center to create a small well.
3. Pour the heavy whipping cream into the well.
4. Continue scraping the frozen watermelon into the cream while stirring until the mixture becomes thick, creamy, and light pink.
5. Serve immediately, garnished with fresh mint if desired.





BOERNE MONTHLY Magazine



BOERNE MONTHLY Magazine

DR WILLIAM ALBRIGHT

Elegantly Balanced & Natural Results
Alamo Plastic Surgery

BEST IN BOERNE MONTHLY HEALTH CARE

BEST IN CARE 2026



Elegantly Balanced & *Natural* Results

Dr. William Albright *Alamo Plastic Surgery*

By Jim Lefko
Boerne Monthly Contributor

Helping patients feel like themselves again is one of the most rewarding parts of Dr. William Albright's work as a board-certified plastic surgeon in San Antonio.

Serving Boerne, the Texas Hill Country, San Antonio, and surrounding communities, Dr. Albright believes plastic surgery is often about much more than appearance. It is about confidence, restoration, and helping patients feel comfortable in their own bodies.

"Plastic surgery can be amazing. If you're physically and mentally prepared and have appropriate expectations, it can truly change your life," he says. "And no, it's not just about vanity."

That philosophy shapes every aspect of Dr. Albright's approach to patient care. His goal is not to create an overdone result. Instead, he focuses on helping each patient achieve something elegant, balanced, and natural; a result that fits their body, their goals, and the way they want to feel.

"For example, when I see young adult patients with congenital breast deformities, they're often not looking for a pinup result, but instead want a more natural, normative breast. If I can do that, they just take off!"

His practice focuses on breast augmentation, breast lift, breast reduction, breast implant revision, breast explant surgery, tummy tuck, liposuction, and mommy makeover procedures.

For Dr. Albright, great results begin long before surgery. He believes the foundation of every successful outcome is patient education, realistic expectations, thoughtful planning, and a clear understanding of what each patient hopes to achieve.

That philosophy extends beyond the operating room. A San Antonio native, Dr. Albright is married to his wife, Juli, and together they are raising four children. Juli also works alongside him at Alamo Plastic Surgery, helping develop the systems and processes that ensure patients feel

informed, supported, and cared for throughout their surgical journey.

Together, they have built the practice around a simple belief: patients deserve honest guidance, individualized care, and the information they need to make confident decisions about their health and appearance.

Opening just before the pandemic, Alamo Plastic Surgery has grown steadily through patient referrals, word-of-mouth recommendations, and a commitment to delivering an exceptional experience from consultation through recovery. Recently, Dr. Albright purchased a building in Stone Oak, San Antonio as the next step in the practice's growth.

"We help a fair number of patients from the Boerne and Kerrville areas, as well as Fredericksburg," he says. "My patients tend to be women in the 25-to-45 age group, often post-kiddos and considering mommy makeover procedures."



Many of Dr. Albright's patients are women seeking breast and body procedures after pregnancy, breastfeeding and weight loss.

"Most of my patients want a result that feels natural, proportionate, and true to them," he says. "They want to feel confident in clothing, comfortable in their own body, and happy with what they see in the mirror."

Because plastic surgery is such a personal decision, Dr. Albright believes the consultation process should begin with education, not pressure.

"The best advice I give to people thinking about undergoing plastic surgery is to really do your homework," he says. "Start with knowing your motivations and what expectations you may have. Then start looking for the right surgeon to help you achieve your goals."

At Alamo Plastic Surgery, that means helping patients understand their options, what is realistic for their

body procedures after pregnancy, breastfeeding and weight loss.

"Most of my patients want a result that feels natural, proportionate, and true to them," he says. "They want to feel confident in clothing, comfortable in their own body, and happy with what they see in the mirror."

Because plastic surgery is such a personal decision, Dr. Albright believes the consultation process should begin with education, not pressure.

"The best advice I give to people thinking about undergoing plastic surgery is to really do your homework," he says. "Start with knowing your motivations and what expectations you may have. Then start looking for the right surgeon to help you achieve your goals."

At Alamo Plastic Surgery, that means helping patients understand their options, what is realistic for their

anatomy, and which procedure or combination of procedures will best support a safe, beautiful, and lasting result. Every recommendation begins with an honest conversation about what is achievable and what will best serve the patient's goals.

"Most of my patients simply want to feel like themselves again," Dr. Albright says. "When the right procedure is matched with the right patient and the right expectations, plastic surgery can be incredibly rewarding."

Dr. Albright grew up around medicine. His mother was a dentist, his father was an oral surgeon, and his older brother is also a plastic surgeon in The Woodlands. But for Dr. Albright, the pull toward medicine was never only about technical skill. It was also about empathy, problem-solving, and the ability to help people in a meaningful way.

"I think I have always had great empathy, even as a child," he says, tracing his interest in medicine back to his youth.

"Growing up, I got to work with my dad in the summers, and I thought I would go to dental school to become an oral surgeon. But when I was an undergrad, I realized my passion was for surgery specifically rather than dentistry generally. So, I decided to go to medical school instead. Dad was a little bummed."

That sense of empathy continues to shape the way Dr. Albright practices today. He believes listening carefully to patients and understanding their goals is just as important as the technical aspects of surgery.

After earning degrees from UT-Austin and UTMB in Galveston, Dr. Albright was selected for an integrated plastic surgery residency at Penn State. Following a brief time in Cedar Rapids, Iowa and additional training in Brazil and Paris, he made the decision to return to his hometown and build a plastic surgery practice in San Antonio.

BOERNE MONTHLY Magazine



GIVE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE THE BOOT



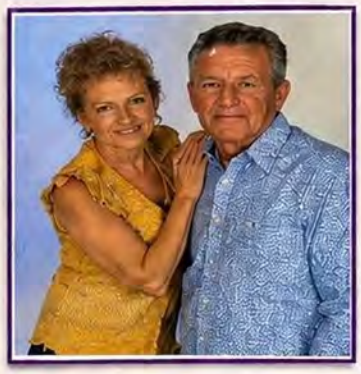
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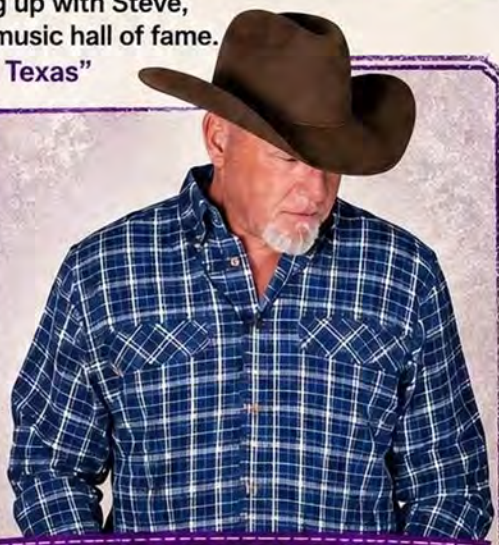
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- Steve Oliver, Grammy-nominated songwriter and Alabama Music Hall of Fame inductee
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