

Theta Nu Chapter #205 Texas Area 1, Smith County, Texas March, 2023. Volume 35 Issue 10 Sharon Gullett, newsletter editor <u>gullettdkg@gmail.com</u>



Bev's Buzz

Hello Ladies!

It's hard to believe it is already May and another year with DKG is nearly over. We've had some fun and informative meetings, some meetings sadly canceled due to scary weather and some especially great losses we've endured this year. I look forward to more time together hopefully more face-to-face meetings, counting all the years in DKG and reminiscing how times have changed. I look forward to the tour of the Christian Women's Job Corps facility on Thursday, May 11th at 4:30 and also dropping off our gathered work jewelry for the participants there.

I thought about the phrase Sharon repeated some time ago, "One Size Fits All" and I have been reflecting on that phrase a lot lately. I probably think like everyone else about the shirt on the rack that is just generally too big for everyone and is really just a covering and nothing more. But lately I have been reflecting on my life and how one size doesn't fit all in life and one size doesn't even fit for my life at different times in my life. Sometimes the things that fit just right some time ago no longer fit and I'm not just talking about the jeans I keep in my closet for that 'someday' when a miracle would happen and I could fit in them again! The ages and stages of my grandchildren push me to try new activities because the old, tried and true activities are a little too childish for all of them now. It may be a time to



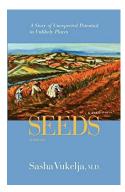
try some new 'sizes' on and see how they 'fit' for you and for me. I guess that is part of time marching on and growing and learning all your life, we just have to keep plodding on and try to get the best fit we can for our part and realize that might not fit everyone but it fits me today.

Hope to see you the second Thursday in May...May 11 at the Christian Womens Job Corps Office on W. Ferguson, close to the First Baptist Church (Downtown). Bev

	Celebration of Membership		
	Date of Induction	Years of Membership	Name of Member
	1959	64	Evelyn Bochow
	1971	52	Linda Ellis
	1975	48	Meriam Eakin
	1979	44	Linda Tatum
	1980	43	Karylene Hall
	1981	42	Sharon Gullett
	1988	35	Mary Tindall
	1994	29	Linda Nichols
	1998	25	Geetha Ramarathnam

Theta Nu Book Club

May's selection, **Seeds:** a **Memoir** by Sasha Vukelja or known locally as Dr. V, is her memoir of being a young woman and her mother, under the watchful eye of Communists, who escape from Yugoslavia to a new life in America. Dr. V became a respected oncologist after overcoming poverty, language barriers, discrimination, terrible living conditions, the uncertainty of homelessness, and her mother's disapproval. A truly remarkable story of someone who overcame so many obstacles. The proceeds from the sales of this book go to the Anderson-Vukelja Foundation, a private family foundation benefitting people in need; in this case, it will fund work with the homeless.



Available through Amazon or Barnes & Noble online.

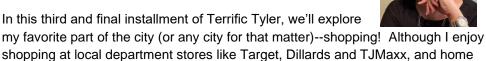
Book Club will meet at LaHacienda on in May on a night TBD. But come any time after 4:00; CindyL likes to get there early to make sure we get the "little room." Official starting time for book discussion is 4:30 folowed by supper. At our last book club, we decided to continue through the summer and are looking for good reads. Ideally, the book is available in paperback and/or available for our local libraries.

Ramblin' Roses



Out and About in East Texas

Terrific Tyler Part 3 ~ Cindy Swinney



decor stores like HomeGoods and Kirklands, I prefer local boutiques, antique shops and flea markets for one of a kind treasures. My dear friend Linda K. opened up this unique world of shopping for me. It's easy enough nowadays to go online and do a search for a certain item, but for me it's about the hunt for treasure. At this point in my life, I really don't need much, unless it's something to add to a collection or something so special that I will replace something I already have. Often it's more of a trip down memory lane as you see something from your childhood or from your grandmother's house.

For antiques, my favorite place in Tyler is Ye Olde City Antique Mall in downtown Tyler. For more upscale items, I love The House of Wynne in Bergfeld Center. Our Little Corner in the Noonday area is a great way to spend a few hours. On the drive out there, stop by the Trading Post. My favorite flea market is The Armory at the fairgrounds. A more recent discovery is Thrift Estate Finds. It's on Broadway near Sprouts Grocery Store. You'll have to drive down a narrow alleyway to get there, but it's definitely worth it. Be sure to ask to see the trays of jewelry from behind the counter. Rega of Paris offers two Tyler locations for all kinds of fun finds. Have you been to Wags? It's one of my new favorite stops. It's owned by a realtor who asks clients that are moving to donate items they no longer need with the profits going to the SPCA.

Tyler is also blessed to have a few really good estate sale companies with sales offered many weekends. Sign up at estatesales.net for email notifications for local sale dates as well as pictures of their offerings.

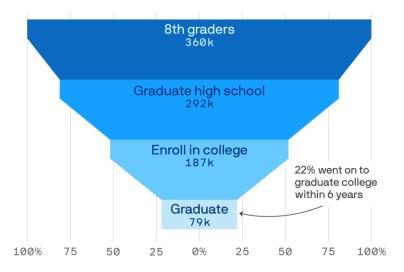
Well, there you have it! I hope these three Tyler articles have reignited your appreciation of Tyler and all that it offers! Tyler really is a terrific town!



Eighth Graders Are Falling Behind

Share of Texas 8th graders who earn a degree

2022 study of 360,198 students who were in 8th grade in 2012



Eighth graders in Texas have fallen <u>so far behind their peers</u> in other states that they could lose roughly \$104 billion in future earnings, according to an <u>analysis</u> by <u>Texas 2036</u> and the <u>George W. Bush Institute</u>.

Why it matters: Education spending tends to be the biggest line item in the <u>Texas budget</u>, but the learning outcomes don't seem to be keeping up with other states.

The big picture: Conversations about Texas' public education system have become highly politicized in recent years.

• There have been fights over diverting <u>public funding toward private schools</u> and homeschooling, the kinds of <u>books that libraries can carry</u>, the rights of transgender students, and how public schools treat their administrators of color — all while teacher and staff burnout remains high.

What they found: Once a student falls behind in the early years of their education, it's difficult for them to catch up, according to the new report.

- 60% of Texas students currently in grades 3-12 can't do math at their grade level, and 48% don't read at their grade level.
- Only 22% of Texans who finished eighth grade in 2012 got a degree or credential within six years of their high school graduation.
- Nearly one-fifth of those 2012 eighth graders didn't graduate from a Texas public high school.\
- What's next: Disparities in educational achievement are likely to worsen by the time Texas' current eighth graders grow up, the report warns.

Source: Data: Texas Higher Education Consulting Board; Chart: Erin Davis/Axios Visuals https://bit.ly/3m9wOec

Mothers' Wisdom ~ by Sharon Gullett

I was browsing through a stitchery catalog a couple of weeks ago and actually laughed out loud when I turned the page and saw this design. And then I thought of my mother and the approaching Mother's Day on May 7.

Moms love giving advice to children and passing on their worldly wisdom. Over the years, my mother subtly suggested probably more than a 1000 solutions to my dilemmas.



Only with the last five years have I realized how

great of an impact my mother had on who I have grown up to be. I always thought I took after my Dad more but now realize mother is always "busy" in my brain and psyche. Her little pearls of wisdom keep shining through. "To attract a good friend, be one." "Don't let emotions always guide your decisions and actions." "Challenge yourself to try hard things." "Try for perfection, but if that doesn't work, it's okay." "All days won't be good days, but you will live through the ones that aren't."

She taught me Christian values, the virtues of hard work, living within your means, persistence, and being loyal and supportive to the people you love the most. She encouraged me but didn't fix my problems. She had faith in me that I could handle things from friend drama to professional choices and education decisions and boyfriend/spouse selections. She encouraged me to get out of my comfort zone. She taught me to be a



confident woman (most of the time) who could handle almost anything life threw at me.

Where would I be without her love, and her scoldings, and the life lessons she taught me? Where would I be without the words out of <u>her</u> mouth? I bet someone close to you has said, "You sound just like your mother!" Isn't that the best complement a daughter could hear?

Graphic source: https://bit.ly/3NhMaIF

Something to Consider

"The reason most people never reach their goals is that they don't define them, or ever seriously consider them as believable or achievable. Winners can tell you where they are going, what they plan to do along the way, and who will be sharing the adventure with them." **Denis Waitley

