Hope
Happiness
Success

9 Stories of 2009
I recently had the opportunity to sit in on a Bible study class that was taking place at the Marty Leonard Community Chapel on the Lena Pope Home campus. During the course of the class I attended, the leader posed an interesting question. He asked what was the single thing that most people wanted in life. Love, happiness, wealth, success, fame were among the things that crossed my mind. The class leader then provided his answer — significance. In other words, people want to know that what they have done in this life has mattered, resulting in something that will be long lasting, something that is bigger than them.

Nearly 80 years ago, Lena Pope, along with a few friends, started our organization to help children and families. She did so to fulfill a wish made by her son, Conrad, who tragically died at a young age. I think one of the reasons she worked so hard in the early years of our agency was to make sure that her son’s short life mattered, and that his life, though brief, had an impact on children just like him. That legacy continues today at Lena Pope Home. Serving and helping children and families happens every day at our agency — through services that provide a full range of prevention, early intervention, counseling, and education. Put another way, we continue to do what “Mom” Pope set out to do — making a difference and doing what matters for kids and their families.

You can help. By making a donation to Lena Pope Home, you are contributing to our shared mission of serving children and families and making a positive, lasting difference in the lives of our children. This year, do something significant, do something that matters – give to Lena Pope Home and watch the world change by helping create hope, happiness, and success for children and families.

Thank you for your support,

Todd Landry
Asako Cosby was recognized on September 25th for her dedicated fifty years of working for Lena Pope Home. The office of the Mayor of Fort Worth honored her with these words:

“Mrs. Cosby’s amazing perseverance and dedication has been invaluable to Lena Pope Home and to the City of Fort Worth. She exemplifies all that is right with the citizens of this great City. Asako Cosby’s efforts in providing aid to help counsel, generate hope and strengthen today’s youth and future leaders is laudable and serves as an example of how faith and good work help to enhance the character of our youth.”
There are many reasons why people connect with Lena Pope Home. Some have heard the story of Conrad Pope, coughing through his last days, dying from diphtheria, and how he described his vision of the “house beyond the blue” that his mother and father would fill with children who needed their help. What started as one woman inviting hungry newsboys to dine at her table, to the thousands of children and their families her legacy agency cares for every year, Lena Pope Home has changed innumerable lives. These are just a few of their stories.

Parenting with Love and Limits®
Lena Pope Home has always served children with family as a center point. From the very beginning, Mrs. Pope believed in keeping families together. The goal of Parenting with Love and Limits® is to improve behavioral problems in children by providing therapy and training to parents and create greater family connectedness. One mother wrote, “The change in my daughter has been nothing short of a miracle. After taking your class, which forced us to do things that we had not done in many months, we began again as mother and daughter. Instead of reacting the old way, your class taught me to react without reaction. I learned to listen and not take things so personally. I think she began to feel like she could tell me anything and I would always love her.”

Project Care
One of the responsibilities of Sarah Rubinson, a member of Lena Pope Home’s Development team, is to create and send out Project Care e-mail alerts. Project Care is designed to answer very specific needs of children served by Lena Pope Home. In the midst of any treatment to help kids create success in their lives, there are the everyday items they often go without. “No matter how many times I send one of these out,” Sarah said, “I’m always amazed at how quickly people respond, and with complete generosity. For example, we had a senior girl who had been asked to her prom, but had no way of
purchasing or making a dress. Within a few days, we had a dozen dresses for her to choose from, and the extras were given to other deserving girls. One young man had a passion for music, and his band director encouraged him to learn to play the tuba. His only problem was that he needed a tuba! With one Project Care alert, he had his very own, shiny new tuba. I asked the gentleman who made it possible why he did it. He said, “I played tuba in high school, and if I’d still had my instrument, it would have been his.” The last story Sarah told was about a young woman who needed corrective shoes to help her walk. She had made do with old hand-me-downs that drew both unwanted attention and teasing, not to mention they didn’t really do the job. The special shoes and socks cost well over $1,000, but within hours, caring strangers not only improved her physical well being, but gave her a huge boost to her self esteem, ensuring her new shoes would not look like 1950s cast offs.

**JJAEP (Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Program)**

Many Fort Worthians who grew up and graduated from Arlington Heights High School can tell countless stories about the “Lena Pope kids,” and how they fit into the mainstream of their lives. As the agency has evolved, the role it plays in education has come to the forefront, although the programs we offer are rarely in the public eye. JJAEP, for example, is a “last chance” education program. Through referrals from the Juvenile Justice Department and the Fort Worth ISD, it brings in the toughest of the tough, students who have been expelled from their home schools for drug, weapons or gang charges. The success of this program is best illustrated with a shiny gold belt.

The JJAEP program begins its day with students passing through a metal detector. As students progress in the program, they earn more and more privileges. The highest honor a JJAEP student can earn is the wearing of the gold belt during their commencement ceremony. Imagine a belt not a single student would ever wear off campus, but within the program, it signifies not only completion of the program, but that the student has given themselves the best opportunity for continued success by truly personifying the lessons they have learned. Bill Hughes, a behavior interventionist, explained, “For most of these kids, they’re getting to know themselves in terms of their goals and aspirations for the first time in their lives.” Dominique, a graduating senior, said, “In this program, the teachers bring out the real Dominique, not the fake one that I had hid behind in regular school.” Lauren, another fellow student, had been abandoned by her mother and sexually abused by her father. After living with various friends and other family, she joined a gang, hoping to find somewhere in the world to belong. Despite her rough childhood, when she found help and support through JJAEP, her indomitable spirit was still filled with hope. Lena Pope Home not only became her school, but her second family. Upon successfully completing the project, Lauren is pursuing her passion for writing, and understands that the doors to Lena Pope Home will always be wide open for her.

**Family Matters**

The Family Matters program has a short name for a long list of services. Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy is a long name to describe a highly specialized treatment for children who have suffered traumatic events, such as abuse, domestic violence, or natural disasters. It involves weekly, 90-minute sessions that can last up to four months. Monica Olson, one of Lena Pope Home’s licensed early-childhood and trauma therapists, met Lanell when she was 16, after she had spent her entire childhood and adolescence surviving a series of horrific episodes of abuse, neglect and abandonment. Monica explained, “It’s not about what’s wrong with the child, but rather, what has happened to them. They’ll never forget it, but we teach them how to successfully live beyond the trauma.” Lanell, a confident and articulate young woman, summed up her experience with Lena Pope Home, “I’ll admit, I was angry and unresponsive when we first started, but Monica took her time with me, and allowed me to talk about life when I was ready. She showed me that she wasn’t just working with me, but really did care. I also realized that I had been cheating myself by not allowing someone like Monica to help me. I’ve learned how to communicate, even how to love. Most of all, I’ve learned that not all people are bad people. There are many good people in life who really want to help. I plan to live my life as one of those.”
If a day of golf could be perfect, the 16th Lena Pope Home Golf Classic at Hawks Creek certainly came close. The full field of supporters enjoyed fantastic fall weather, tremendous food, and incredible extras provided by presenting sponsor, Nike Golf. Our sincere thanks to all of our sponsors, volunteers, The Covey, Shula’s 357 Grille, Starbucks, Chimy’s, Hawks Creek staff, and especially Nike Golf, for helping us reach an net record of more than $86,000.

Bruce Devlin of PGA and golf design fame led an early pro clinic for the golfers, which was interspersed with the thrilling sight of F45s and G72s flying over the blue skies. An exclusive pretournament sponsor event was also hosted at Nike Golf the evening prior, creatively catered by Lanny’s Alta Cocina Mexicana.

Speaking of perfect, Ryan Rapisand, son of one of the tournament’s founders, David Rapisand, shot a hole-in-one, the first in tournament history! His efforts netted him $500 — congratulations, Ryan!
YPA Fall Kick Off

The Lena Pope Home Young Professional Advocates held their fourth annual Fall Kick-off Party on the evening of Tuesday, September 22nd at the home of Lena Pope Home Board Member Kevin Avondet and his wife, Susanne. The Avondet’s west side home provided a perfect setting for the over 50 current and prospective YPA members in attendance. Guests were treated to glorious food by Ellerbe’s Fine Foods and fine wines donated by Republic. Attendees learned more about the Home and the children it serves from a variety of people, including Executive Director Todd Landry, at the same time as enjoying a fun evening of networking and socializing. The YPA’s are already looking forward to their next event in November.

For more information on how to join the YPA group, please visit the Lena Pope Home website at lenapopehome.org

Generous Portions

The 13th KRLD Restaurant Week is history, but a wonderful culinary memory for many fans of the record 32 fine restaurants who participated this year. Tarrant County is blessed with an abundance of incredible chefs and philanthropic restaurant owners who lead the community by offering their finest culinary talents, and then giving back to Lena Pope Home. Our sincere gratitude goes to each and every owner, manager, chef, and wait staff who went above and beyond to provide the finest experience for each diner, and ultimately, a tremendously generous gift to Lena Pope Home.

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Joey and Leslie Hunt take advantage of Restaurant Week.

Lauren Kwedar, Charity Auginbaugh, John Sammons

Denise Semple, Kara Morey, Kristin Fleckenstein, Hope Kahan

LEGACY 7
Summer Fun with the Texas Rangers

The Texas Rangers not only had a great baseball season, they were also behind the scenes making a difference in the lives of many children and families. More than 200 Lena Pope Home campers, ages nine to 12, enjoyed a wide variety of summer activities and new experiences.

The goal of Texas Rangers Summer Academy is to promote good citizenship and academic skills. One parent summed up the feelings of many, “It’s just incredible! The camp has been a great influence for my son, Zach. In many positive ways, Zach has learned a lot about team work and making friends, and has realized there are positive and caring role models in the world. Thank you for all you do for our children.” We are so grateful to the Texas Rangers Baseball Club, Fox News Network, Texas Parks and Wildlife, Rocky Top Therapy Center and Trinity River Audubon Center.

Chapel Hill Academy

As the doors opened this year for the first day of school at CHA, new principal Victoria Sendejo, focused on her 270 bright young faces, nearly twice as many students as last year. Adding second graders included more than just students — it doubled the number of desks needed, as well as the freezer space. Additional teachers were hired, the car pool lanes were reconfigured, and the bathroom breaks had to be coordinated, just to highlight a few. Along with 2nd grade classes, other additions to the young charter school campus are a counselor, art, music, and physical education teachers. Congratulations on a successful first semester!
Now Serving Families

Supported by a United Way grant, Lena Pope Home led a collaboration of other local agencies to form the Multicultural Family Support Center. Located in the Bethlehem Center in east Fort Worth, community volunteers were involved at early planning stages to help shape the services offered and long range plans. These same volunteers named the center was well.

The needs of the local community range greatly, as do the challenges to meet those needs. As one hopeful client explained, “I am six months pregnant and I have my sister’s five children, all under 10, while she is in prison. My sister is expecting again and will deliver her 6th child in prison. The father is also serving time.”

The Multicultural Family Support Center is designed to address the complex needs of an under-served area of Fort Worth, and is now open Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., with extended hours to accommodate groups or special events.

Holiday Spirit

by Sarah Rubinson

Each year, Lena Pope Home has dozens of inquiries from good-hearted people looking for ways to help fill the holiday gaps for the children and families we serve. Here are some ways for you to be an angel this holiday season.

ADOPT AN ANGEL

Little ones of all ages love the thrill of a holiday gift. Our Angel forms make it easy to please an individual child with his or her very own wishes and sizes.

ADOPT A FAMILY

From single parent families to families with nine kids, choosing to help an entire family during the holidays can address many needs. Their lists can include items such as basic beddings, a holiday meal, or presents under the tree for all. Families with the greatest needs are selected for this special holiday “adoption.”

ADOPT A CLASSROOM

Generosity overflows during the holidays — so much so that some folks miss out on the opportunity to support our kids. However, the needs we strive to meet every day are no less any other time of year. Students attending Lena Pope Home’s Chapel Hill Academy would appreciate story telling, arts and crafts, or other age-appropriate activities. This is a wonderful opportunity for any size group that wants more interaction with our youth.

If you would like to support our children and their families during the Holiday Season, or in the coming year, please contact Sarah Rubinson at 817-255-2646 or srubinson@lenapopehome.org.
An Enrichment of Prior Experience

By Edgar Araiza

The summer between the first and second year of Medical School is widely regarded by medical students as the “last free summer of your life.” For this very special time in one’s career, there are typically three choices as to what to do: research, family practice, or “other.” Very few people choose the “other” because of difficulty in trying to find something to do outside of the clinics and labs that actually relates to the field of medicine. It is that “other” I had in mind when I met with Dr. Lee LeGrice and Mr. Ted Blevins in the Spring of ’09 asking for an internship at Lena Pope Home.

I participated for three weeks in the inaugural Camp Discovery ’09. My goal was to get to know the children as best as I could in one week’s time, but to also relate their predicaments at home or school to how it relates to their health care needs. It’s only been a couple of years since my family and I have had access to quality health care so it’s easy for me to understand the disadvantage that many underrepresented families find themselves in when in comes to lack of health care. Two children stood out above all others, Juan and Michael.

When I first started talking to Juan, it was evident that he had a problem with authority figures and a lack of motivation to participate in group activities. He made it clear to me that he had no interest in participating in any of the group’s activities and that he was only there because his mother had forced him to come. I started talking to Juan because I knew there had to be other issues than what was shown on the surface to explain his unruly behavior. Juan told me about his family and his neighborhood. Many in his family are involved in gangs, drugs, and violence, so Juan has developed a tough guy’s mentality simply to survive. He told me that he used to participate more in class, but because he was made fun of, he stopped participating and started getting in fights and acting out. Juan also lacked proper hygiene and dental care, as well as showed signs of malnutrition. I asked Juan when was the last time he went to the doctor for a check up and he said, “Never.” I spoke to Juan about the importance of putting forth a strong effort in the camp not to please the camp leaders, but rather for himself. I told him that no one from his neighborhood would know about his participation if he did not tell them, which might allow him to truly enjoy himself and get the most out of camp. The fact that I and the other camp leaders showed him care and respect brought out the best in Juan. He became a student leader in the camp, participated in all activities, and in the end, he was extremely grateful to the camp and Lena Pope Home for encouraging him to get better instead of being down on him like everyone else seemed to be in his life. Such was the case for young Michael.

I met Michael during the first week of camp and immediately knew he had a mental disability. Michael had problems with slurred speech, stringing cohesive thoughts together, following directions, and even showed signs of motor impairment. Michael also exhibited extremely poor hygiene and lack of proper health care.
In speaking with Michael, I found out he was in the JJAEP program because he was caught selling drugs. Michael also talked about his usage of those same drugs he was selling. I could not help but wonder whether it was the drugs that he used that lead to his mental impairment, or if it was the mental impairment that brought him to use drugs. Either way, this 11-year-old young man had strayed down the wrong path for reasons that he was simply too young to understand. One thing was certain, and that was that Michael needed help to get back on track in school and in life. If one week at Lena Pope Home’s Camp Discovery proved to be an indication of things to come, then Michael was in the right hands. The other kids in the camp would take turns, along with the administrators, to look v and encourage Michael throughout the activities. Michael felt like he belonged to the group and it encouraged him to participate even more. One of the other students even brought Michael some tennis shoes to make him more comfortable and the staff bought him a hat to protect him from the sun, and a belt to keep his shorts up. That love and dedication to help out is inspiring to me and to all who are involved with this program.

As my final days working at Lena Pope Home wind down, I find myself inspired even more to help my community in any way I can. Working at Lena Pope Home has shown me that there are many agencies and people who are actively working on every day to provide people access to help, including health care. Lena Pope Home strives to always do better and to give even more, which is a lesson that all of us can truly benefit from.

Susan Stevens Crummel at CHA

“Will Platapus be lost again? Will Violet drop the ball in the prairie dog hole again? Will Mr. Mutt be able to help his dog patients with their people problems?”

With gales of laughter and intense interest, the children at Chapel Hill Academy were mesmerized by the animated story telling of award-winning author, Susan Stevens Crummel. Her visit inspired students with tales of her childhood, her sister and writing partner, Janet Stevens, their pets, and the love they share as they together create their collection of highly acclaimed children’s books.

Thank you, Susan, for sharing your work so personally and with such encouragement. It was the perfect kick off for Chapel Hill Academy’s focus on literacy.
I consider it a real privilege and an honor to be a charter member of the Lena Pope Home Circle of Hope and want you to know why I have chosen Lena Pope Home in my planned giving.

When I was growing up in Fort Worth, my parents knew Mrs. Pope and both were involved in supporting her work on behalf of children who had been abandoned. We had youth from Lena Pope Home in our family home from time to time and my parents also helped many children, such as paying for braces for one young girl, a friend of my sister’s. My mother was a volunteer and my father, being a department store owner, gave Mrs. Pope whatever she needed. I went to both junior high and senior high schools with the children from Lena Pope Home and several were friends of mine.

After I married and returned to Fort Worth, I immediately became involved when asked to join the Board of Directors. Some 49 years later, I am still on the Board and still very involved. I have served twice as President of the Board and have also served on numerous committees. Like my parents, I had the opportunity to work with Mrs. Pope and try to help her in her dream and mission to take care of children who are in desperate need of someone to care for them, teach them, discipline them, advocate for them, and most importantly, love them. She was the most tenacious and determined woman I have ever known when it involved advocating for the children. And 79 years later, her dream is still alive and well.

Through all these years, I have watched and participated in the many changes that have taken place in how we care for children. However, what has not changed is why we take care of children. We have always used best practices and been flexible enough to meet their needs, whether it was residential care, foster care, family based practices, alternative education, and most recently charter school.

In 2010, Lena Pope Home will move into its 80th year of existence, and it is considered one of the best child welfare organizations in the nation. Including Lena Pope Home in my will was an easy decision and the best way I can help these children and continue the legacy Mom Pope started long after my time on this earth has ended.

I would urge you to consider a lasting gift to Lena Pope Home in whatever way best suits you; your will, insurance, or any other planned giving gift. These abandoned, neglected, troubled children need our continued and ongoing help for them to have a future like the children before them were given.
Volunteer Corner

by Hope Kahan

A few years ago, the Fort Worth Club hired me as their catering director. One of my first events was the incredible Sweethearts Dessert Fantasy, which is held every February. Being new to Fort Worth, I was seeking a non-profit organization to support, but hadn’t yet realized that what I was looking for was right in front of me. With encouragement from Marilyn Sammons and Kathy Jo Zeigler, I became involved with various projects and committees. I discovered that Lena Pope Home is an organization that upholds high standards of quality of service. I found myself wanting to be a part of the success and, as cliché as it may sound, to make a difference. I was amazed by the gratitude I received from the staff. Needless to say, this spurred me along! I took part in Young Professional Advocates (YPA) projects, such as painting the offices of the New Beginnings Alternative Education program, and I was also honored to serve as chairperson for the YPAs. One of my favorite volunteer experiences took place last spring when I was a “reading friend” to a class of kindergartners at Chapel Hill Academy. The children’s excitement was absolutely contagious! I have also enjoyed learning about the depth of Lena Pope Home programs as a member of the Program Committee, and appreciate the opportunity to provide feedback and support through this venue.

Lena Pope Home offers so many ways for volunteers to be involved. Whether you’d like to help coordinate a social mixer for young professionals, or take on an opportunity to spend time with children, the greatest thing about volunteering has been the appreciation given so demonstratively by the staff who commit their lives to helping these children. Just knowing that my contributions have made a small difference in helping them reach their goals means the world to me!

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Presented by Frost

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and Doug Moody

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in memory of Sebert Pate
Martha Leonard
in memory of Patricia Hamner
Martha Leonard
in memory of Nancy Hamm
Gail Rawl
in memory of Hazel M. Ware
Jo Throckmorton
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Greg Wilemon
in memory of Nancy Hamm

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in honor of Alvin Harold Albrit
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in honor of Beth Rivers

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Kirsten Bescher
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Contributors
Donations from July 1, 2009 through September 30, 2009

Frito Lay volunteers organized a back-to-school back pack and supply drive to make sure Chapel Hill Academy students were well prepared. Thanks Frito Lay!
“Thank you to our friends at JPS and wonderful community fund drive volunteers!”

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Ellerbe Fine Foods
Ferrar’s Ristorante
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Grand Met – Grand Hyatt DFW
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Lambert’s
Lanny’s Alta Cocina Mexicana
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Student Advocate Association
Texas Rangers Baseball Club
Lori and Justin Thomas
Karen Van Leeuwen
Sherrie and Jason Weiser

Camp Discovery
Cathy and Kel Devlin
Matt Plumb
Vetro Glassblowing Studio & Gallery
Erma Lee

Texas Ranger’s Camp
Ramone Alvarez
Raphael Brock
Rico Brown
Central Market
Jon Heidike
Dawn James
Ben Jones
Dana Larson
Karín Morris
Lauren Pesqueda
Lynn Reed
Kristi Roberts
Judy Schmidt
Zeshan Segal
Jennifer Steinmetz

RESTAURANT WEEK
Aventino
Bistro Louise
Bonnell’s Restaurant
Buttons
Cacharel
Cast Iron Omni Hotel
Cattleman’s Fort Worth Steak House

Happy golfers at 1st Wine and Nine, hosted by Hawks Creek to benefit Lena Pope Home.
The mission of Lena Pope Home is to help create hope, happiness and success for children and families.

Lena Pope Home receives funding from the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services.

If you receive duplicate mailings or wish to no longer receive this magazine, please let us know.

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Calendar of Events

For information about Lena Pope Home’s Special Events, call 817-255-2616, or visit lenapopehome.org

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 21, 2010</td>
<td>Sweetheart Dessert Fantasy at the Fort Worth Club, presented by</td>
<td><strong>Frost</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 13, 2010</td>
<td>31st Annual Fiesta de Oro, presented by Joe T. Garcia’s</td>
<td></td>
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The Marty Leonard Community Chapel is available for anyone seeking a spiritual refuge while on Lena Pope Home’s campus. It is also available for weddings and other events.

Please visit the chapel website for more information: martyleonardchapel.org, or call Katherine at 817-255-2576.

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