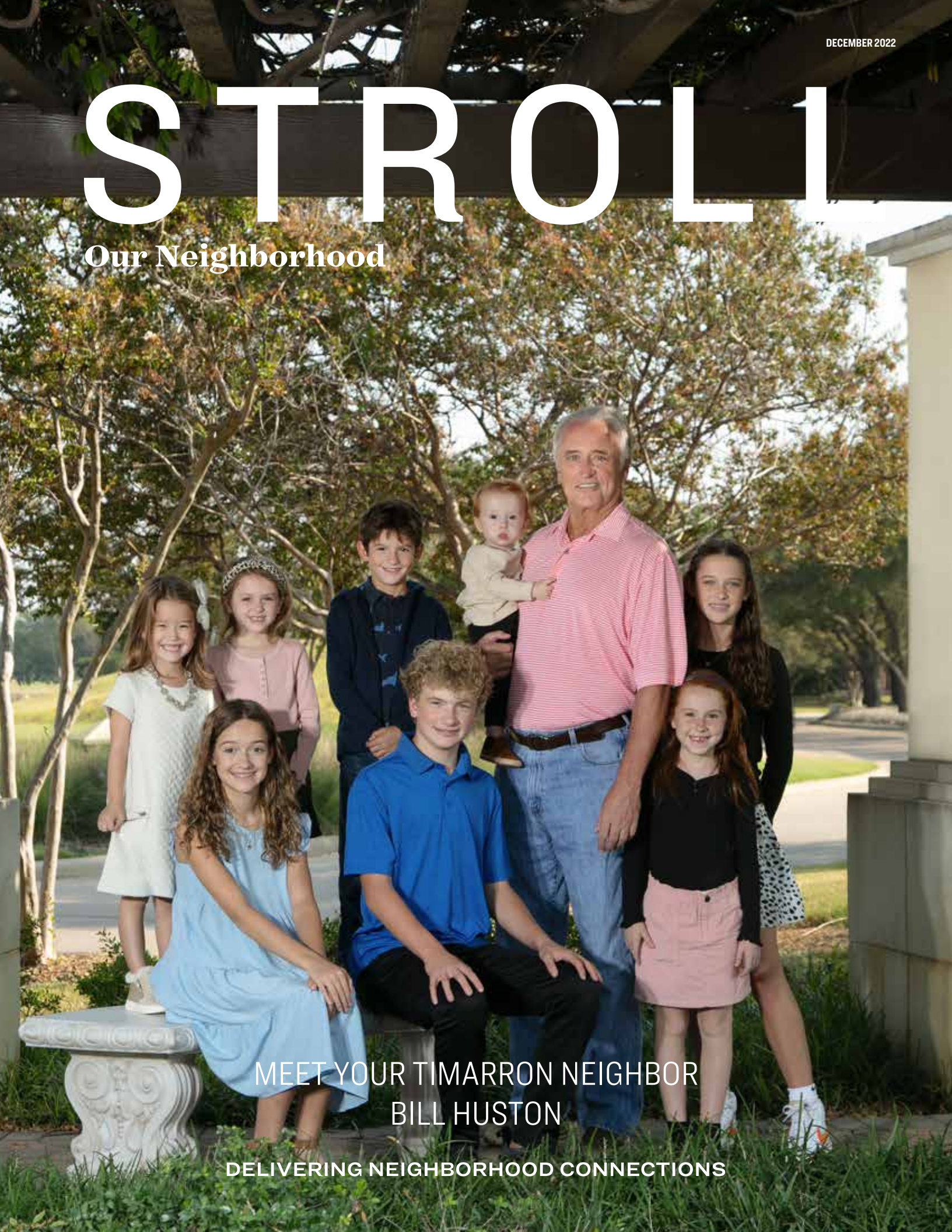


STROLL

Our Neighborhood



MEET YOUR TIMARRON NEIGHBOR
BILL HUSTON

DELIVERING NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS

SPONSOR INDEX

This section is here to give our readers easier access when searching for a trusted neighborhood partner to use. Get to know the businesses who make this magazine possible. Please support them in return and thank them if you get the chance!

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Thank you for saying yes to a child who needs you!
Like you, Tammy couldn't say no to a child in need.

"Your sister's just had a baby. Would you be willing to take him? You've got 24 hours to get here or we will place him in a foster family."

Tammy said yes and adopted her nephew Eric nearly two decades ago. But Tammy had to navigate the private adoption process by herself - without a CASA.

By the time Eric was 13, Tammy received another call. Her great-nephew John was removed due to abuse and neglect, and now he needed a home too.

Tammy did everything she could to have John placed with her, but Tammy was unfamiliar with the foster care system and had no one to help her. Tammy asked around her community and was soon told that **John needed a CASA volunteer.**

"I didn't know a thing about CASA. [But] as soon as Ava got on the case, she was right here. She drove 300 miles just for this kid that she didn't know."

Because of kind people like you, John was given a CASA volunteer named Ava. Now Tammy and John had someone to help them navigate the confusing child welfare system.



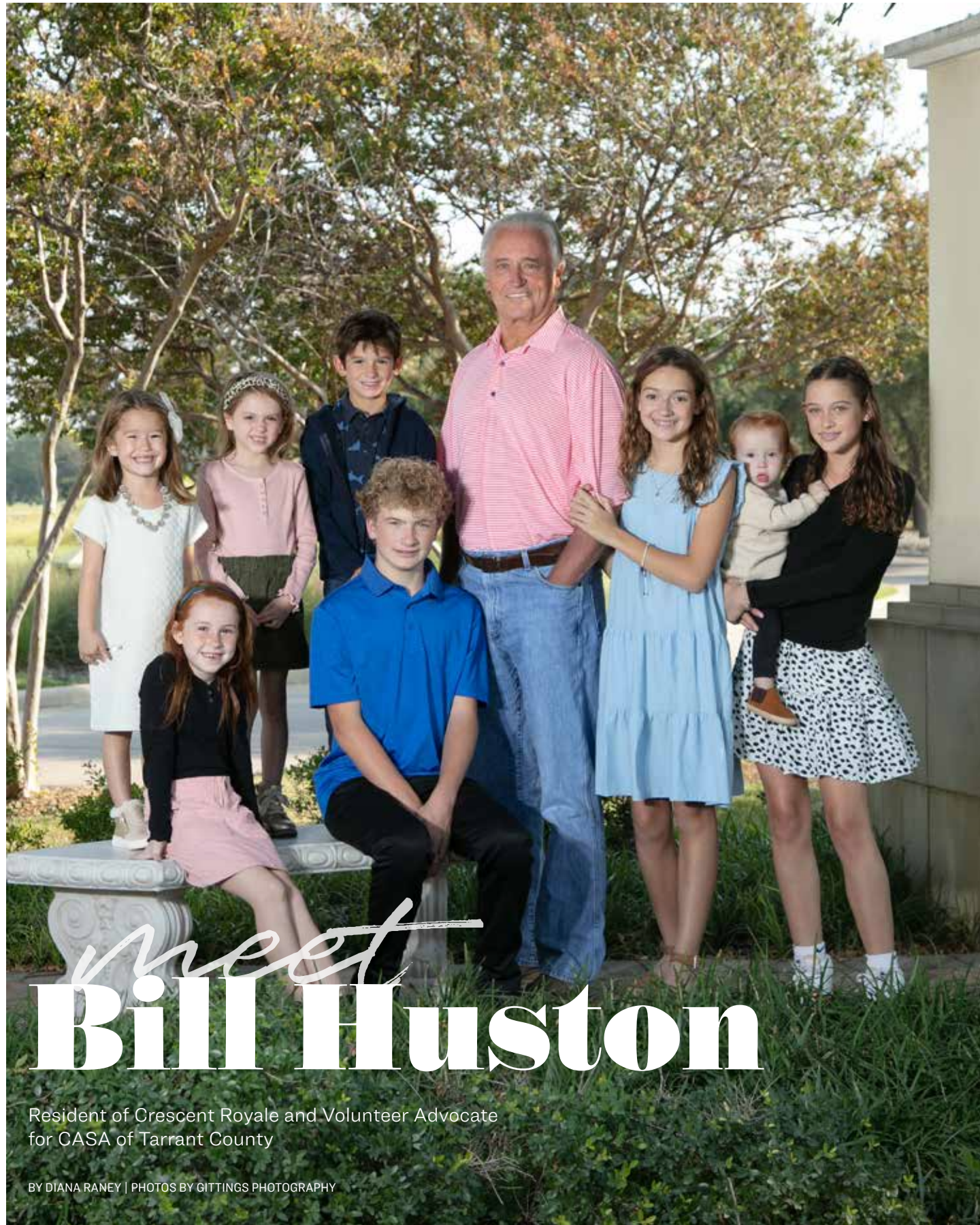
"Ava (our CASA) went to every court date with me. She fought - she's a bulldog. I'd have never been able to do all this without her." —Tammy

YOUR KINDNESS KEEPS THESE BROTHERS TOGETHER: SPEAKUPFORACHILD.ORG



ERIC AND HIS LITTLE BROTHER





Meet Bill Huston

Resident of Crescent Royale and Volunteer Advocate for CASA of Tarrant County

BY DIANA RANEY | PHOTOS BY GITTINGS PHOTOGRAPHY

Bill loves spending time with his grandkids.

RANDY WHITE REAL ESTATE SERVICES

This monthly column is brought to you by your friends at Randy White Real Estate Services, a *Stroll Our Neighborhood* sponsor.

Crescent Royale resident Bill Huston has lived in Southlake for the last 29 years. Originally from Oak Ridge, TN, Bill moved to the DFW area from Tampa, FL, in 1993 when the healthcare business he was working for opened an office in Dallas. When Bill first moved to Texas, he was the Senior Vice President (SVP) of Finance for Tenet. Later, he took on the role of SVP for Triad Hospitals, Inc., located in Plano. When they sold the company in 2007, he decided to retire and step away from the business world. That didn't last long though, and soon Bill was working as the SVP of Finance for a hospice company. He retired for a second time in 2013 and enjoyed the slower pace of retirement for a short time before getting restless once again. He soon stepped into the role of CFO for Scottish Rite for Children. In 2020, with an assist from Covid, he decided to try retirement a third time, and this time it worked. He has no interest in having another paid position and is perfectly content with his role as a full time Uber driver for his grandkids – so far, it's the best job he's ever had.

Bill enjoys spending time with his family – his three children, their spouses, and his eight grandchildren. His daughter, Hollee, is married to Sam Ford, and together they have four children: Marlee (14), Lilly (14), Beau (14), and Nash (7). Bill's oldest son, Chad, is married to Lisa, and they have a daughter, Zinnia (6). Heath is the youngest of Bill's children and is married to JuliAnne. They have three children: Everly (8), Charlotte (6), and Jett (1).

Bill's family has many traditions, but his favorite is taking a one-week family vacation each year with the entire gang. Although it's challenging with such a large group, everyone enjoys the adventure and time spent together. This past year, they traveled to the North Island of Turks and Caicos, which Bill says may be one of the best vacations they've had together.

When Bill isn't traveling or driving the grandkids around, you can often find him at hot yoga or outdoors taking part in a variety of sports. He currently plays on two senior softball teams and two senior baseball teams, and plays pickleball, tennis, and golf. According to Bill, his very active lifestyle helps him hang with the grandkids. Bill is also a volunteer CFO for E3 in Plano, a non-profit organization that establishes churches all over the world and supports missionaries in many foreign countries.

*Wishing You
&
Your Family*

Health, Happiness and Peace
throughout the New Year
in 2023.

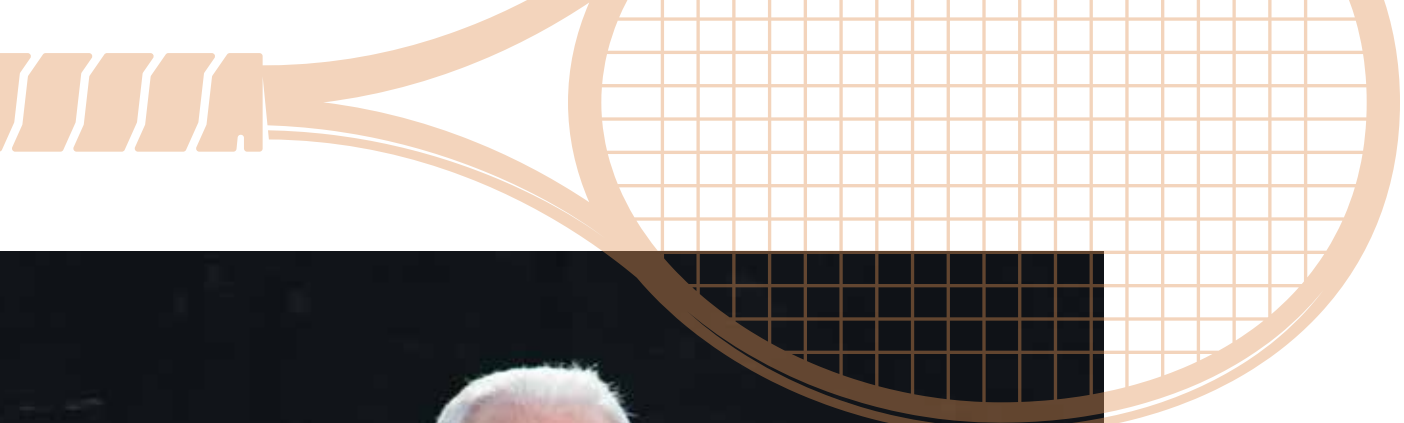


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In addition to E3, Bill spends several hours a month volunteering for one of his favorite organizations, CASA of Tarrant County. CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) is an organization of volunteer advocates who stand up on behalf of abused and neglected children. From helping siblings find permanent placement together, to finding a child a stable home with a relative, to uncovering information that helps reunite a loving family, volunteer advocates make incredible differences in the lives of abused and neglected children.

Bill is a court-appointed volunteer with CASA, taking an oath to advocate for the best interest of children. As an advocate, Bill speaks for children in court, making fact-based recommendations for placement to the judge based on his discussions with the children, family members, teachers and others to find out where the children will be happiest and safest. Bill is a reliable constant for children who are experiencing a chaotic time in their lives.

According to Bill, one of the most rewarding parts of being a CASA is the unique connection you have with your assigned



child. “It’s just simple moments of spending time with the child. My child is a little introverted – spends lots of time on social media. I’ve had him on a skateboard, throwing a football, and shooting basketball. I think all kids should sweat some after school, and I encourage my child to enjoy the outdoors – although I did have to make a deal with him to play Uno each time I was there. It’s been a very humbling experience.”

Although Bill had some initial concerns as to whether he was qualified to navigate the maze of agencies often required for foster children, the CASA organization has helped him every step of the way. They have the best support system and will take a problem or issue if it’s beyond Bill’s knowledge or experience.

Bill encourages other adults to consider becoming a CASA. It takes about five hours a month and your initial

commitment is one year. He especially encourages men to get involved. “If you want to change a family tree – come join us. These boys need a father figure in their life – someone they can reach out to if they happen to change foster parents or an event in their life where they need to feel secure or cared for. They didn’t choose their circumstance, but we as men can choose to get involved. I don’t think giving five hours of our time is much of a request when you have a child in need.”

For more information about becoming a CASA, visit speakupforachild.org or call 817-877-5891.

Share your family story or nominate another Timarron family for this column. It’s easy! Just email Diana Raney at DianaN2pub@gmail.com for details.