



LIVING WELL

Dedicated to impacting and improving the lives of those affected by Parkinson's disease

GENEROSITY AT WORK: A Campaign Update & What's Ahead

Thanks to your incredible generosity, the Grow with DAPS annual fundraising campaign has come to a successful close! We are thrilled to share that DAPS not only met but exceeded its goal, raising over **\$30,000**. Your support empowers us and reaffirms our mission — thank you for trusting DAPS to provide comprehensive services that support the physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being of those affected by Parkinson's disease.

So, what's next?

When our volunteer facilitators in Duncanville recognized the growing need for a local Parkinson's support group, DAPS acted quickly. We're proud to announce the launch of Duncanville's first PD support group, beginning Thursday, June 5 at 1:00 PM at First United Methodist Church. Led by Angela and followed by exercise with Jonathan, this group will meet on the first Thursday of each month.

Isolation is a common and often overlooked symptom of Parkinson's, but knowing there's a welcoming place to connect with others can make all the difference. We hope you'll consider joining Angela and the group as they build community and share strength together.

Boxing Workshop Returns

We're also excited to announce a new noncontact boxing workshop for instructors this month! Since launching the noncontact boxing program in February, interest and enthusiasm from both members and instructors has been overwhelming. To meet demand, DAPS will host another noncontact boxing workshop, led by Dr. Mike Braitsch for instructors who missed last year's session. This workshop will expand their knowledge and skills, helping us bring even more dynamic and effective programming to our community.

On behalf of everyone at DAPS, we are truly honored to support you and your loved ones as we face the Parkinson's journey together.

In partnership,

Leisha Phipps, MSW
Executive Director

JOIN US!

**NEW PD
SUPPORT
GROUP**

When: Thursday, June 5 at 1pm
(First Thursday of each month)

Where: First United Methodist Duncanville
427 Avenue C, Duncanville, TX 75116

Led by: Angela Walker, MSW, ACSW





KENNETH H. COOPER, MD, MPH LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD LUNCHEON



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A Life Reclaimed: How Deep Brain Stimulation Transformed One Patient's Journey with Parkinson's Disease

By: The Abbott NTX Team



John was living a busy life, acting in community theatre, working out, and enjoying regular date nights with his wife. "By the time I was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease in 2012, I had slowed down quite a bit, no longer able to do the things I loved most in life. In addition, the increase in medications over time to keep me moving and functioning, were causing severe dyskinesia."

Like many Parkinson's patients, John struggled with the daily challenges of movement, often feeling trapped by his own body. Then, with the guidance of his doctor, he discovered Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS) System—a therapy that gave him back his ability to live his life to the fullest. DBS is a surgical procedure that uses electrical stimulation to treat neurological conditions. It's often used to treat movement disorders like Parkinson's disease. With over two decades of clinical evidence and more than 200,000 patients implanted worldwide, DBS is the most common surgical treatment option for Parkinson's disease. The DBS surgical procedure involves delivering electrical stimulation to specific areas of the brain.

"DBS allowed me to cut my medications by half, eliminating dyskinesia completely. I play pickleball, mow my lawn weekly, work out regularly, and take my wife to the museums on weekends," John explained. If a patient is eligible for DBS, there are several device companies from which to choose. John opted to use Abbott's device, because of the Liberta™ Rechargeable System, the smallest DBS RC system on the market, with the least charging requirements of 1x in 37 days.

"I choose to recharge my implant once a month and it takes about 2 hours. I usually watch a movie while I wear the recharging collar." Other patients may incorporate charging based on their lifestyle. For example, charge every other Friday for 30-45 minutes. "It's been over a year since I had my Abbott Liberta™ RC System implanted and I can honestly say, it delivered on all of its promises! I'm happy with my current status with Parkinson's."

The Science Behind the Solution: Faster, More Convenient Care

John's story is a testament to the impact of DBS on his daily life. A unique feature to Abbott's DBS device is its backing by rigorous clinical research. The ROAM Study (Remote Optimization of Advanced Movement), a randomized, controlled multicenter trial, demonstrated that patients who utilized remote programming experienced symptom relief over two weeks sooner than those relying solely on in-person visits. (Full study link: [Nature Scientific Reports](#))



Abbott offers two types of DBS batteries: rechargeable and non-rechargeable.

- Infinity™ Non-Rechargeable System: Proven to last an average of 5 years, minimizing the need for battery replacements.
- Liberta™ Rechargeable System: The world's smallest DBS battery requiring a minimum of just one charge every 37 days.

Both options provide the same therapeutic benefit and remote programming capabilities.

For David, it's simple: "I would do it again in a heartbeat for the benefits."

To learn more about Abbott's DBS Systems, please click [here](#).

JUNE EDUCATIONAL SERIES

Denton Educational Series

Friday, June 6 at 12:00 PM



Sponsored by:
abbvie

Jillian Boudreaux, BSN, RN

Account Executive, Abbvie Neuroscience

TOPIC - What is Vyalev & How It May Benefit You

With over 10 years' experience in specialty pharmaceuticals, as well as over a decade in critical care nursing. Jillian has been with Abbvie over 10 years in the neuroscience and immunology divisions. She is passionate about using her nursing and science background to support and educate patients with PD.

[RSVP HERE](#)

Dallas Educational Series

Monday, June 9 at 11:00 AM



Sponsored by:
ACADIA

Laura Hunter

Executive Neuroscience Sales Specialist

TOPIC - Parkinson's Disease: Discussion of Non-Motor Symptoms

Laura has been in pharmaceutical sales for 28 years, with the last 9 focused solely on treatments for Parkinson's patients. She is an advocate for the PD patient and caregivers due to her personal experience with her late father-in-law, Hal.

[RSVP HERE](#)

McKinney Educational Series

Tuesday, June 17 at 11:30 AM



Sponsored by:
amneal

Nirav Pvasia, MD

Movement Disorder Specialist at Neurology Consultants of Dallas

TOPIC - Next is Now: Innovating Parkinson's Treatment with Crexont

Dr. Nirav Pvasia is a Certified Movement Disorders Specialist and a Board-Certified General Neurologist. Dr. Pvasia found his passion in movement disorders through the challenges of treating Parkinson's disease and other movement disorders.

[RSVP HERE](#)

Garland Educational Series

Thursday, June 26 at 11:30 AM



Sponsored by:
Supernus
Pharmaceuticals

Juan Ramirez-Castaneda, MD

Board-certified Neurologist and Movement Disorder Specialist

TOPIC - A New Way to Help Achieve More Continuous GOOD ON Time Each Day

Juan Ramirez-Castaneda, MD is a bilingual, board-certified Neurologist and Movement Disorder Specialist who practices with Methodist Physicians Neurosurgery and Neurology Specialists in San Antonio, Texas.

[RSVP HERE](#)

Duncanville Educational Series

Monday, June 30 at 11:30 AM



Sponsored by:
Boston Scientific
Advancing science for life™

Dakota Shumacher, MD

Movement Disorder Specialist at Texas Institute for Neurological Disorders

TOPIC - Parkinson's Q&A with a Movement Specialist: A Rambling Raucous Affair



Dr. Dakota Schumacher is a highly skilled neurologist and movement disorder specialist at Texas Institute for Neurological Disorders, in the Arlington and Grapevine areas. He specializes in Parkinson's disease, tremors, dystonia, spasticity, ataxia, MS, and more. Dr. Schumacher is also skilled in procedures like deep brain stimulation programming, botulinum toxin injections, and lumbar punctures.

[RSVP HERE](#)

EXERCISE & SPEECH CLASSES


New to DAPS? Contact us at daps@daps.org or 972-620-7600

Monday		Wednesday	
9:30am	EXERCISE & VOICE W/ TAMMY SOUTH GARLAND BAPTIST	9:30am	EXERCISE W/ TAMMY LAKEPOINTE AT WHITE ROCK
9:45am	ZOOM EXERCISE W/ ANGIE	10:00am	ZOOM EXERCISE W/ DIANA
10:30am	EXERCISE W/ TAMMY SOUTH GARLAND BAPTIST	11:15am	SPEECH W/ LYNN (HYBRID) GRACE LUTHERAN CARROLLTON
12:30pm	DANCE FOR PD W/ DOMINGO WESTMINISTER PRESBYTERIAN	12:15pm	EXERCISE W/ AMANDA & MARINA (ALTERNATE) GRACE LUTHERAN CARROLLTON
1:00pm	SPEECH W/ ROSY FIRST UMC DUNCANVILLE	2:30pm	NONCONTACT BOXING W/ AMANDA PRESTON HOLLOW UMC <i>Canceled June 18</i>
2:00pm	EXERCISE W/ JONATHAN FIRST UMC DUNCANVILLE		
Tuesday		Thursday	
9:15am	ZOOM EXERCISE W/ BARB	9:30am	EXERCISE & VOICE W/ BARB SOUTH GARLAND BAPTIST
10:15am	EXERCISE W/ AMANDA ST. MICHAEL MCKINNEY	9:45am	EXERCISE W/ ERIKA HUNTER’S GLEN PLANO
10:30am	EXERCISE W/ TAMMY PRESTON HOLLOW UMC	10:30am	EXERCISE W/ BARB SOUTH GARLAND BAPTIST
11:30am	SPEECH W/ LYNN (HYBRID) PRESTON HOLLOW UMC	12:30pm	EXERCISE W/ BARB SEMONES YMCA
12:30pm	EXERCISE W/ BARB & AMANDA (ALTERNATE) SEMONES YMCA	2:00pm	EXERCISE W/ JONATHAN FIRST UMC DUNCANVILLE
1:00pm	ZOOM SPEECH W/ PAT		
Friday			
10:00am	ZOOM EXERCISE W/ ANGIE	11:00am	SPEECH W/ TAMI ST. MICHAEL MCKINNEY
10:00am	EXERCISE W/ AMANDA ST. MICHAEL MCKINNEY		

Zoom Meeting IDs			
	EXERCISE W/ ANGIE Meeting ID: 556-087-4938	SPEECH W/ LYNN Meeting ID: 783-578-3790	NUTRITION W/ FAYE Meeting ID: 556-087-4938
	EXERCISE W/ BARB Meeting ID: 556-087-4938	SPEECH W/ PAT Meeting ID: 740-850-5274	SUPPORT GROUP W/ GAIL Meeting ID: 556-087-4938
	EXERCISE W/ DIANA Meeting ID: 556-087-4938	EXERCISE W/ TAMMY Meeting ID: 556-087-4938	 PASSWORD LOUD

SUPPORT GROUPS

New to DAPS? Contact us at daps@daps.org or 972-620-7600

Monday		Thursday	
10:00am	PARKINSON’S SUPPORT PRESTON HOLLOW UMC 2nd Monday of the Month	10:30am	CARE PARTNER SUPPORT W/ ZEE SOUTH GARLAND BAPTIST Weekly
10:00am	CARE PARTNER SUPPORT PRESTON HOLLOW UMC 2nd Monday of the Month	1:00pm	PARKINSON’S SUPPORT W/ ANGELA FIRST UMC DUNCANVILLE 1st Thursday of the Month
1:00pm	CARE PARTNER SUPPORT W/ ANGELA FIRST UMC DUNCANVILLE 1st & 3rd Monday of the Month		
Tuesday		Friday	
10:30am	ZOOM PARKINSON’S SUPPORT W/ GAIL 1st Tuesday of the Month	11:00am	ZOOM CARE PARTNER SUPPORT W/ GAIL 1st Friday of the Month

Locations		
CARROLLTON Grace Lutheran 1200 E Hebron Parkway 972.492.4474	DALLAS Semones YMCA 4332 Northaven Road 214.357.8431	DUNCANVILLE First UMC 427 Avenue C 972.298.6121
DALLAS Lakepointe at White Rock 9150 Garland Road 214.324.1425	DALLAS Westminster Presbyterian 8200 Devonshire Drive 214.351.3251	GARLAND South Garland Baptist 1330 E Centerville Road 972.271.5428
DALLAS Preston Hollow UMC 6315 Walnut Hill Lane 214.363.4393	DENTON Denton Senior Center 509 N Bell Ave 940.349.8720	MCKINNEY* St. Michael the Archangel 411 Paula Road 972.542.4667
	PLANO* Hunters Glen Baptist 4001 Custer Road 972.867.1610	

*Click [here](#) for detailed instructions on where to park/enter.

SPOTLIGHT



Ed Long and Janet Butcher-Long

Honoring Ed Long: A Life Composed with Care

Edward Long has taught History of Art and Music at The Hockaday School for nearly 50 years, becoming the school’s longest serving and most beloved teacher. He built the orchestra, launched senior projects and student government, and created the Junior Patrons Guild to connect students with Dallas’s cultural institutions. The Eugene McDermott Foundation recently donated to DAPS in his honor, in recognition of his extraordinary influence and in support of his journey living with Parkinson’s. One of his former students and McDermott Foundation trustees, Grace Cook, shared: “Mr. Long taught us how to see — not just how to analyze a painting, but how to pause, notice, and engage with the world more deeply.” That philosophy has shaped how generations of Hockaday students move through the world. His influence isn’t just found in concert halls or classrooms, but in the way his students now lead, build, and create — carrying forward his belief that deep attention leads to meaningful change.



Brenda Aguilon
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GROW WITH DAPS
2025 Annual
Fundraising Campaign
Donors

(Donations as of May 27)

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Honorariums

In Honor of James Bertolino
Jenelle Bertolino

In Honor of Mike McMillion
Joan Bohlmann

In Honor of Barry
Patricia Goukler

Memorials

In Memory of Abe & Marianne Lichtenstein
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*In observance of Juneteenth,
our office will be closed on Thursday, June 19.*

DISCLAIMER

The contents or opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual writers or presenters and do not constitute an endorsement or approval by DAPS staff. Please consult your physician for any medical concerns or issues.