Sheba Joyner marks her sixth anniversary with UNT System next month and while she’s likely to favor the go-for-it end of risk-assessment in her personal life -- like jumping out of an airplane three different times -- her work life is exclusively risk-adverse. As Senior Director of Internal Audit, she reviews business processes and identifies risks that could threaten UNT System from accomplishing our goals. When she identifies a risk, she alerts leadership and recommends improvements to help reduce those risks. Read on to discover the southeast Asian nation that’s her favorite place to visit, the other southeast Asian country that cooks up her favorite food and why this act of kindness makes it obvious her heart is made of pure gold.

If you’d like to nominate a faculty or staff member to spotlight, please email communications@untsystem.edu.

UNT System HR brings you UNT World experts with this periodic and always timely installation called “Ask An Expert.” So, let’s ask...

EXPERT: Nat Pope Ph.D., a UNT Associate Professor of risk management and insurance, has published works on the topic of extended auto warranties and worked in the extended warranty industry for a period prior to becoming an academic. If you’ve ever wondered why you receive so many calls promoting extended auto warranties, Dr. Pope is just the expert to ask. He takes us into the world of extended warranties, what they are, if they’re good deals or scams, who should buy them and how to protect yourself in the case you want to purchase one. Click below for everything you always wanted to know about extended car warranties but were afraid to ask.
**MASKING UP: The best masks to protect you and your family**

The rapidly spreading Delta variant is placing renewed importance on wearing a mask in indoor public places and even crowded outdoor settings considering the current high rate of transmission across all North Texas, according to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Do you know the best masks for filtering the coronavirus? How about a simple trick to reveal whether your face mask offers sufficient protection? We’ve got you covered. Please review this [helpful guide on best and worse face mask types](#) as well as the [UNT System COVID-19 web page](#) for the CDC’s Guide to Masks. It's more important than ever to protect yourself and your family, particularly as schools for all ages are either now in session or will be soon.

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**HIGH FIVE: Pair of UNT Dallas profs have work on COVID-19’s impact on small businesses published**

The pandemic has been hard on many businesses, but disproportionately so for small- and medium-sized enterprises. Associate Professor of Business Entrepreneurship [Isaura Flores, Ph.D.](#) (left/above) and Assistant Professor of Business Management [Elizabeth Muniz, Ph.D.](#) (right/below) examine the fallout in their research piece “COVID-19 Impact on Small Business Survival” recently published in the *International Journal of Business Research* (IJBR). Also, their work “Digital Entrepreneur Opportunities During COVID-19” was published in the *International Journal of Strategic Management* (IJSM). Congratulations!

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**HIGH FIVE: UNT Libraries assistant to the dean lives out dream on Jeopardy!**

[Rachel McMullen](#) says her lifelong dream to be a contestant on Jeopardy! lived up to expectations after she [appeared on the July 30 episode](#). A UNT alum and the Assistant to the Dean at UNT Libraries, McMullen says she’s watched the show for 25 years and after four in-person auditions over the years, she got the call to be on the show in April. McMullen represented UNT well, unfortunately she ran into a Jeopardy! buzzsaw in champ Matt Amodio, who is now the 4th-highest earning contestant. If you missed Rachel’s episode, catch it [here](#). Great job, Rachel!
HR UPDATE
UNT System Human Resources has numerous programs and tools available at no cost to assist you with health or well-being issues, work-life balance, financial issues and more. Explore your UNT System benefits, and follow this space weekly for tips, programs and promotions.

> SALARY STUDY INFO SESSION: Earlier this month, UNT World employees received an email detailing the results of the UNT System staff salary study. To learn more about the study, please attend the virtual Staff Compensation Structure Information Session for your campus:

UNT: Monday, Aug. 16, 9-10 a.m. Register | UNTS: Monday, Aug. 16, 1-2 p.m. Register
HSC: Thursday, Aug. 19, 9-10 a.m. Register | UNTD: Tuesday, Aug. 17, 1-2 p.m. Register

> GOT THE OPTUMRx APP?: HealthSelect plan participants have prescription coverage through OptumRx which means you can take advantage of the HealthSelectPDP website and the OptumRx Medical app to:

- Compare medication costs and look for generic or lower-cost options
- Do a filtered search for a network pharmacy near you
- Receive medication reminder alerts
- View your benefits and claims in real-time
- Request a prior authorization
- Manage medication for covered dependents

> ATTENTION TEXFLEX DEBIT CARDHOLDERS: Your TexFlex card from WageWorks won't work from Sept. 1 through mid-to-late September due to a blackout period when your carryover funds not used from plan year 2021 will not be accessible. Watch your mail for your new debit card from PayFlex to pay for eligible expenses starting on Sept. 1. If you did not re-enroll and have carryover funds, you'll receive a new debit card to access those funds. More info:

- You have until Dec. 31 to file any claims for plan year 2021 expenses through WageWorks or log in to your account. Learn about the new PayFlex provider here and, remember, on Sept. 1, you'll be able to register and download the mobile app to better manage your account.

ON THE AIR: How UNT Health Science Center's John Sims saved a life
We Are North Texas Podcast host and UNT System Chief Communications Officer Paul Corliss talks with John Sims, Director of UNT Health Science Center’s SaferCare institute. Sims was serving as a medical volunteer for the Cowtown Marathon in Fort Worth last May when he spotted a potential tragedy. A runner nearing the finish line collapsed to the pavement due to heart failure. A trained nurse, Sims sprang into action alongside several HSC students and performed CPR on the runner, a 27-year-old man. Sims tells his story of saving a man’s life -- and gaining a new friend.

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Follow us on Twitter and Facebook; Visit our website

Mental Health Awareness Aug. 17, 2 - 3 p.m.
Handling Your High-Stress Job Aug. 31, 2 p.m.
Finding Balance
Click our member institutions' logos for the latest news.

If you have an HR question or topic you'd like covered in the newsletter, please email HR@untsystem.edu.

Miss an issue of HR Highlights? CLICK HERE to catch up.