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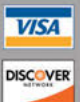
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ON THE COVER

Giselle Garza is focused on the future.

Photo by
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EDITOR'S NOTE



Sally

Sally Fuller
North Ellis Co. NOW Editor
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Let me steady my soapbox a bit ...

Ah, October! A time breast cancer survivors everywhere celebrate life anew as the world around us turns pink! It's a time when I personally reflect on the importance of self-care and trusting my instincts.

Eleven Octobers ago, I had a mastectomy. The outcome of my surgery and treatment was stellar. The malevolent tumor was removed before any of its evil cells found their way to my lymph nodes, and my oncologist prescribed treatment that apparently worked.

Here's the thing: The cancer was undetected in my annual mammogram. I'm not knocking mammograms. Get one! But don't trust them with your life. Take your life in your own hands (pun absolutely intended), know your body and speak up if you need to!

I found the lump just before my annual mammogram and believed if it was something of concern the mammogram would tell me. It didn't. Even after I told my doctor about the lump, he couldn't find it on my films. However, when he examined the tiny tumor with his ultrasound paddle, he scheduled a biopsy posthaste. Weeks later, the "moderately aggressive" cancer was vanquished.

I take advantage of the pink spotlight every October to step onto my soapbox and preach: "Do your self-exam!" Yes, discussing self-breast examination is a little awkward. I certainly hope not to offend. I'm willing to take the chance because it saved my life.

Your life is in your hands!

P.S. We hope you enjoy our new Fun Pages for kids and adults!

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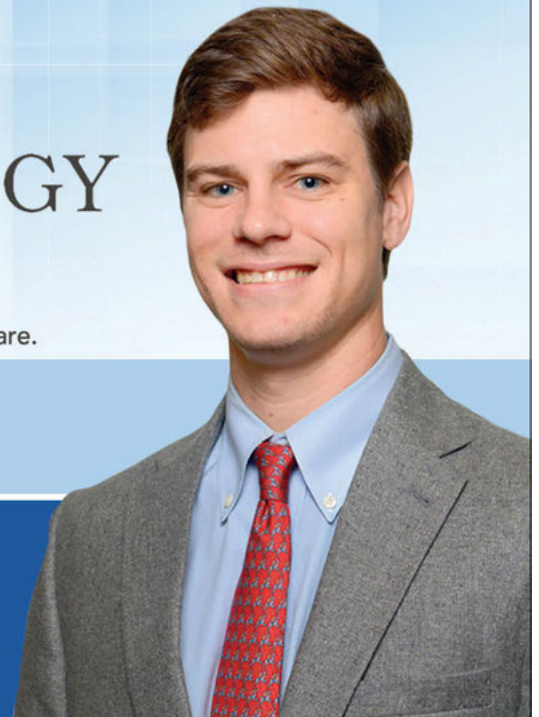
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“THERE MAY BE BUMPS IN THE ROAD, BUT WITH HARD WORK AND DEDICATION, I WILL ACCOMPLISH MY GOALS.”

GOAL-DIG

Never one to back down from a challenge, Giselle Garza is a young woman on a mission. That mission is what keeps her motivated as she works to finish her high school education near the top of her class. “When I was little, I was already thinking about college. I have always had a certain plan, and that is what I will do. There may be bumps in the road, but with hard work and dedication, I will accomplish my goals,” Giselle said.

As a member of the National Honor Society at Life High School in Waxahachie, Giselle takes several Advanced Placement courses. “I like the challenge,” she said of the difficult classes.

During high school, Giselle has taken several health science classes — anatomy and physiology, medical terminology and health science, to name a few. Giselle is fascinated by the medical field and loves learning about the human body. “I actually got to build a moving human leg out of water bottles and a door hinge in my anatomy and physiology class,” Giselle reflected. “It was a great learning experience.”

This is Giselle’s senior year, and after graduating, she plans to pursue a degree in the medical field. Her top two university choices are Texas Woman’s University and Tarleton State. “I want to become a nurse practitioner,” she said.

The inspiration for this career choice is a family friend who has helped Giselle and her family over the years. “I have always loved my nurse practitioner. She took care of my grandfather when he was ill, and not only did she help me when I was sick, but she has been there to counsel me at times. She helped me, and she helped other kids. That is what

I want to do, too, because I love children,” Giselle shared.

A relative, who currently is attending college, also inspired Giselle. “He said he is going to college for him. He said, ‘Don’t just do it for others. Do it for yourself.’ I want to better myself and my future,” she admitted.

Giselle is dedicated to her academic success but also makes time for volunteer activities. This summer she interned at Methodist Hospital, where she learned about daily operations. “My position there was more hands-on. I was a floor stocker and a dietary ground runner. I made sure nurses had sanitizer wipes, gloves, gowns and masks, and I delivered food to patients,” Giselle explained.

Food delivery was a highlight of the job because she was able to interact with patients. “I got to converse with them and talk to them about their meals. I have also gotten to see newborn babies, and even helped doctors,” she said.

The experience is helping Giselle refine her future plans in the medical field as she has been able to see firsthand the difference receiving compassionate care makes. “Some elderly patients are in pain. You can see it in their eyes, but when you can make them smile, it makes you feel good about helping others,” Giselle said.

Through school, Giselle also has been able to secure



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— By Joy Horn



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a volunteer position at Baylor Scott and White Hospital. She is excited about observing doctors and nurses at work there.

Giselle is well-rounded, with interests beyond academics and volunteer activities. She has been playing soccer since she was 3 and says the sport taught her many of the skills she utilizes at school. "Soccer has given me motivation to keep going when times get rough, not only in the game, but in life. Life is like a soccer ball. You've got to keep going to get something. If it tries to get away from you, you must keep trying and take your best shot," Giselle shared. She credits her father, who was her soccer coach for more than 10 years, and her other coaches as being instrumental in teaching her these lessons.

In addition to being a soccer player, Giselle is an artist. Art is a hobby she loves because it lets her reveal her creative side. "I have been drawing ever since I can remember," she said. "When I'm drawing, I like to be alone, so I can concentrate and put all my energy into it. I can focus on



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other things like school and soccer, but my creative mind is always there.”

Art is not something Giselle plans to pursue professionally, but the self-taught artist definitely has talent. “I drew roses and a cross on each side of my great-aunt’s car, and a cross with angel wings on the gas tank of my grandpa’s motorcycle. They both loved the art, and it meant a lot to them. My great-aunt hugged me *so* hard when she saw it,” Giselle remembered.



Giselle’s next endeavor may be the most challenging yet. This November she will represent her hometown in the Miss Teen USA Pageant in Houston. While she admits it’s out of her comfort zone, she is excited about the new experience. “I am a little reserved, so I am doing it to break out of my shell and get new social experiences. It is not just about how you look. It is about sharing your personality with others,” Giselle said. She also believes the pageant will begin to prepare her for future interviews. “It will help me learn how to function under pressure,” Giselle explained.

Giselle always has her future in mind, but her own future is not all she thinks about. One day, after accomplishing all her goals, she wants to give back to her family. “My mom has always wanted to go to Hawaii, so one day, I intend on taking her there.” Considering Giselle’s determination, her mom is probably already practicing saying, “Aloha.” **NOW**

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Heartbeat

— By Rick Mauch

OF A FAMILY

At Home With Brian and Sabrina Holmes

Life happens at the Holmes' house, and for Brian, Sabrina and their two children, that's exactly what they want. "Our kids are both adults now, and for all the years we've lived here, this has been 'Grand Central,'" Brian said. "The kids have friends over — they sing, talk. We have friends over. We laugh together. We cry together. The home is a sacred place."

Brian and Sabrina have called their house in Ovilla home for two decades. Sabrina's father, a retired contractor, built the house and about 30 others in their neighborhood. "It's cool to drive around and know my dad played such a big part in this being here," she said with perhaps a tinge of pride.

After 20 years of "Grand Central," Brian and Sabrina began remodeling their home in late 2017. Significant changes were made to the kitchen and master bathroom, and while the interior may look different, the heartbeat of the home is still vibrant and compassionate. Their long, wooden dining table, set just outside the kitchen, is always ready for friends and family to sit down for a healthy, home-cooked





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meal, even if that meal is spur of the moment. For Brian and Sabrina, what happens *around* the table is more significant than what's *on* the table.

Before their current careers, Brian was in church ministry for 14 years. Together, he and Sabrina founded a church in Cedar Hill in 2003, but they believe their best ministering happens within the walls of their home. "We wanted community. We wanted people to be in our home. We've done

counseling and loved on people here for 20 years," Brian said. "There are dozens and dozens of stories."

One of the family's most treasured pieces sits against one wall of their living room. The old piano becomes a focal point during most gatherings of friends and family. Though it's old, the piano still brings life to the living

room, especially when children — Christian, 23, and Abigail, 20 — have friends from the Cedar Valley College theater department over.

"This place is thumping when those kids are here," Brian said happily.

"When the theater kids come over, they always end up around the piano singing," Sabrina added. "And we always end up singing old hymns for Brian's mom."

Christian and Abigail both love music and the arts and are active in local musical theater. Like their parents, both children gravitate to those needing love and compassion. "For years, Christian has served as a mentor to junior high students, and Abigail is a magnet for young ladies desiring to find their way," Brian said.

An old window frame converted into a photo collage hangs above the piano. It was a gift from Sabrina's best friend who literally "picked it up by the side of the road." On top of the piano are a cup and saucer. Though small, they hold big meaning. "That's



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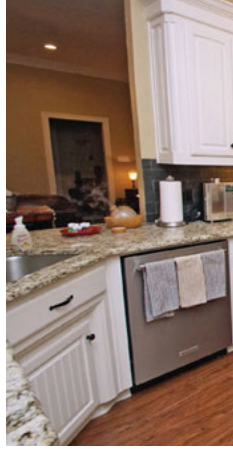
the only thing I have left of Stephanie," Sabrina said, misty-eyed, referring to the childhood best friend she lost eight years ago. Above the fireplace is a large family portrait, each face reflecting the love of this family. "Everybody comments on that," Brian said.

Just inside the front door are offices on either side of the entranceway. Sabrina's is the one with the chandelier. Behind her desk is a piece of art depicting the tree of life. It's one of her prized possessions. "It sums up everything," Sabrina said. "We feel like our branches have touched a lot of people. I'm an encourager and a mother to many."

"People are hungry for authentic relationships and real community," Brian said, turning his attention to Sabrina and pointing to the dining table. "At that table, I don't know how many times, ladies will be sitting there boohooing, and Sabrina is just doing what she does, mothering."

Next to the ever-popular dining area, the large kitchen's pearly white cabinets and stainless-steel appliances add more cheer to the already lively home. The chef's stove, with its double oven and extra burners, promises the meals always available at the Holmes' table.

On one master bedroom wall hangs a pair of pictures, one of a young girl and another of a young boy. Brian and Sabrina gave each other the pictures as gifts on their first wedding anniversary,





long before their son and daughter were born. In the guest bedroom, a curio cabinet Sabrina has had since she was 16 houses wedding mementos and her Precious Moments statue collection.

Every Christmas, Brian and Sabrina throw open their front door and host a party for the senior citizens in their community. It's one more way the liveliness and warmth of their home impacts the lives of others.

Sabrina's brother, a contractor and interior designer, was the mastermind behind Abigail's room makeover. Abigail is well traveled for her age. She's been many places, including Dubai, Zimbabwe and a recently concluded 18-day trip to Alaska. Clocks depicting times around the world reflect her love of traveling and her ambitions to continue to explore.

Brian and Sabrina have been married 29 years. Sabrina teaches health and wellness classes. Brian, an avid reader whose office is overflowing with books, coaches and mentors entrepreneurs and executives to grow their businesses and make an impact in their communities.

They love visiting Colorado and make that trip about once a year. Lake City, with a population of less than 400, is their favorite destination. "It's a stunning city, and where we stay is at an elevation of about 9,000 feet. It's not a touristy town. It's the best-kept secret in Colorado," Brian said.

Though they admit they might move someday, there's much more life still in store in their present home. "It wasn't just a fresh coat of paint," Brian said. "We remodeled and got prepared for the next who knows how many years. I always say, 'Living things grow, and growing things change.'" **NOW**

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Wild Works

— By Virginia Riddle

Butterflies and hummingbirds flutter through the Ovilla Garden Club members' gardens, as well as community area gardens tended by these diligent caretakers. "Go Wild, Plant Natives," was chosen by President Roy L. Cormier as the club's mission for 2017. In the past year, members have focused on creating landscape environments that complement what Mother Nature has already provided. Members have answered the challenge. Mike Yordy, incoming president for 2018-2019, remarked, "Most of our members have butterfly gardens."

Founded in 1971 by Norma Hensel, the Ovilla Garden Club's purpose is to inspire a love of gardening by promoting and educating each other and the public on all phases of home gardening, civic beauty and conservation of environmental resources. With its 24 members hailing from Ovilla and its surrounding areas, the club is a member

of Texas Garden Clubs, Inc., The National Garden Clubs, Inc. and the Oak Cliff Forum. The club's two annual social events are held in members' homes. All ages of gardeners are welcome, and annual dues are just \$20. "We're also looking at having some evening meetings in the future," Deborah Kennedy, 2nd vice-president, added. Other officers include Frances Cormier, 1st vice president; Regina Allen, secretary; and Amber Parker, treasurer.

City beautification and volunteerism are important to the club members. Their projects include maintaining plantings at the Ovilla Heritage Park and the VA Hospital Mental Health Unit, supplying Christmas baskets for the Ellis County Meals on Wheels and supporting the North Ellis County Outreach. Both Ovilla Heritage Park and the Blue Star Memorial Highway marker have received plantings in the past year from club members. Members raise funds through their plant sales at the Ellis County Master Gardener Expo and at garage sales.

Field trips and speakers at meetings help educate members. Members share ideas and plants with each other also. Two members, Carolyn Ross and Mike, are certified

Master Gardeners. A member for five years, Mike enjoys gardening with his wife, Monna. They grow tomatoes and peppers and have two butterfly gardens. Mike, a native of Southern Illinois and retired employee benefits manager, grew up gardening with his dad. "We had the sweetest strawberries and tomatoes," he recalled. Like other gardeners, finding enough time to enjoy his passion is Mike's challenge.

Roy is known for his tomatoes, which he starts from seeds, and his roses. Other gardeners are envious of Roy's two greenhouses in which he raises tropicals. "His yard is like the Garden of Eden," Deborah said. Roy, a retired U.S. Air Force colonel, moved to Ovilla in 2001. His interest in gardening was sparked at a young age while growing up on a Louisiana farm.

Roy enjoys Ovilla's pace of life, but his gardening skills are challenged by the Texas weather and garden pests. "I moved here looking for a place to finally put down roots and dig in the dirt," he quipped.

Deborah, a Tokio, Texas, native, is a fourth-generation Texan who grew up on a cotton farm. Coming from the Texas plains dry farming heritage, her challenge is having too much water for the native plants and cacti that she prefers. Retired after a career with Mondelez International, Deborah sees her role in the club as one of encouraging others. "We all love gardening, and we want to share that passion with other club members, friends and neighbors," she explained.

A self-proclaimed, fun-loving group, the Ovilla Garden Club members are excited about their upcoming programs, field trips and projects. Mike concluded, "Our meetings are open to all. Come join us." **NOW**

Editor's Note: Meetings are held September to May on the third Thursday of the month at 9:30 a.m. in the Ovilla City Hall. For more information, email dkennedylsgcd@gmail.com.



Are You Registered To Vote?
2018

Check your voting status by calling the Elections Office.
October 9th is the deadline to register to vote in order to be eligible to vote in November. Get a voter registration application on the Election Website.


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Tuesday, November 6, 2018**

Early Voting begins October 22nd - November 2nd
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Sunday dinners at her grandmother's house and a mother who taught her to bake at a young age inspired Traci Child's love of cooking. "Every Sunday afternoon, my family went to Grandmommy's for dinner. She always had meat, usually a roast or baked chicken, an array of side dishes — and dessert, of course!" Traci said, smiling. By the time she was 12, Traci's mom was letting her bake chocolate chip cookies on her own.

Growing up in Lubbock also influenced Traci's cooking. "I like simple, tasty, quick dishes I can make for my family, although now that we're empty nesters I mostly cook for just two. That's tricky because I usually cook too much," she laughed. Besides cooking, Traci also enjoys sewing quilts and making baby blankets. **NOW**

Sweet Potato Casserole

Casserole:

- 3 cups sweet potatoes, mashed (about 6 medium-size potatoes)**
- 1 cup sugar**
- 1/2 stick butter**
- 2 eggs**
- 3/4 cup evaporated milk**
- 1/2 tsp. salt**
- 1 tsp. vanilla**

Topping:

- 1/2 stick butter, softened not melted**
- 1/2 cup flour**
- 1 cup brown sugar**
- 1/2 cup pecans, chopped**

1. For casserole: Peel potatoes; cut into

chunks. Boil until tender; drain and cool for about 10 minutes.

2. Mix potatoes and remaining ingredients in a large bowl until smooth. Transfer mixture into a large, greased casserole dish; set aside.

3. For topping: In a medium bowl, using a pastry cutter, cut together butter, flour and brown sugar until crumbly; stir in pecans.

4. Sprinkle on top of casserole. Bake for 30-35 minutes, or until bubbly.

Grandmommy's Famous Coffee-can Pumpkin Bread

- 3 1/2 cups flour**
- 2 tsp. baking soda**
- 1 1/2 tsp. salt**
- 1 tsp. nutmeg**

- 1 tsp. cinnamon**
- 3 cups sugar**
- 1 cup vegetable oil**
- 4 eggs**
- 2/3 cup water**
- 1 can pumpkin (not pie filling)**
- 1/2 cup pecans, chopped**

1. Preheat oven to 350 F. Grease and flour 3 1-lb. metal coffee cans.

2. Mix all ingredients at medium speed; fill each can about 3/4 full.

3. Bake for 1 hour to 1 hour, 15 minutes. Test for doneness with toothpick.

4. Cool 10 minutes. Remove from cans; finish cooling on wire rack.

Triple Chocolate Bundt Cake (Saline Creek Farm)

Cake:

- 1 Devil's Food chocolate cake mix**
- 1 3.9-oz. box instant chocolate pudding**
- 4 eggs**
- 1 cup sour cream**
- 3/4 cup water**
- 3/4 cup oil**
- 1 12-oz. bag chocolate chips**

Icing:

- 2 Tbsp. cocoa powder
- 1 cup powdered sugar
- 1/4 tsp. vanilla
- 1-2 Tbsp. milk
- 2 Tbsp. melted butter

1. *For cake:* Preheat oven to 350 F Grease and flour a Bundt pan.
2. Mix all ingredients, except chocolate chips, at medium speed until well blended. Stir in chocolate chips.
3. Pour batter into Bundt pan; bake on next-to-bottom rack for 40-50 minutes.
4. Remove from oven. Cool for 10 minutes; transfer to plate.
5. *For icing:* Mix ingredients until smooth and thick, yet pourable. (Thin with warm water or more melted butter if necessary for desired consistency.)
6. Pour over warm cake.

Wanda's Scalloped Potatoes

- 6 medium potatoes, cubed and cooked
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- 2 Tbsp. butter
- 4 green onions, chopped
- 1 8-oz. carton sour cream
- 1 8-oz. carton heavy whipping cream
- 2 cups cheddar cheese, grated

1. Preheat oven to 375 F Drain cooked potatoes; transfer to a large casserole dish. Season with salt and pepper.
2. Melt butter at low heat in a heavy saucepan. Add green onions; cook slightly. Add remaining ingredients.
3. When cheese melts, pour over potatoes; bake for 45 minutes.

Broccoli Cheese Soup

- 4 Tbsp. butter
- 5-6 green onions, chopped
- 2 10-oz. bags frozen chopped broccoli
- 1 family-size can cream of mushroom soup
- 1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese
- 3-4 cups milk
- 3 cups shredded sharp cheddar cheese
- Salt and pepper, to taste

1. In a large stockpot, melt butter at medium to medium-high heat. Add green onions; cook for 5 minutes.
2. Add broccoli; cook for 10 minutes, or until tender.
3. Using a wire whisk, stir in mushroom soup, cream cheese and milk until smooth. Add cheese; stir until melted. Salt and pepper to taste.

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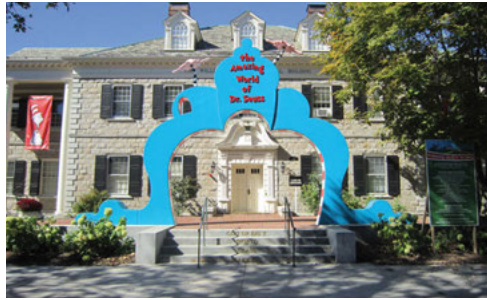
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MGM and More

— By Michele Goldberg

What do you get when you begin with our fantastically beautiful corner of classic New England, blend in dozens of unique attractions, swirl in some cool college vibe and top it all off with MGM Springfield, one of the most impressive new hotel casino experiences in the United States? Why, Western Mass, of course!

Long celebrated as a “triple threat” destination, the region bursts with top attractions and provides ultra-easy access and superb dollar value. Quintessential college towns and major events like the Big E and Bright Nights — plus craft fairs, sporting events and the arts — draw millions.

And it’s getting even better! The opening of MGM Springfield, a state-of-the-art entertainment complex in the heart of the region’s biggest city, provides excitement ranging from Vegas-caliber shows to top-shelf dining to incredible shopping and, of course, lavish casino gaming options.

Positioned at the junction of I-90 and I-91, Western Mass is regarded as the “Crossroads of New England.” Boston is a 90-minute drive, and New York City can be reached in less than three hours.

MGM Springfield promises tons of excitement, but there’ll be no shortage of activities to keep young ones busy. Visitors to MGM Springfield will discover a movie theater, a classic New England bowling alley, restaurants and more than a dozen specialty retail outlets. An ice-skating rink operates in the winter, and a farmers’ market offers local produce in the summer. You don’t have to be a grown-up to get a huge kick out of this place!

Near MGM Springfield, the esteemed Springfield Museums offer access to four world-class museums, plus the new Amazing World of Dr. Seuss Museum and the Dr. Seuss National Memorial Sculpture Garden, all under a single admission. Minutes away, is Springfield Armory National Historic Site — America’s first armory, established by George Washington.

We also invented basketball here in Springfield, and the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame proudly traces its history. The Hall is completing a renovation featuring upgrades in their exhibits. A few miles north in Holyoke, there’s the Volleyball Hall of Fame, because we invented that game, too!

For more fun, there’s Six Flags New England — home to an array of fabulous rides and attractions. During the month of October, the park transforms for its annual Halloween festival, Fright Fest, and winter brings Holiday in the Park.

One of the region’s most-recognized attractions is Yankee Candle Village. This sprawling candle-focused experience boasts 200,000 candles on display in more than 200 fragrances, plus a wide variety of other activities. The opportunity to craft a wax likeness of your hand, create personalized candles and dip-your-own critters makes Yankee Candle a sure-fire day of fun for all ages. **NOW**

To continue to explore Western Mass, visit www.ExploreWesternMass.com. Photos courtesy of Michele Goldberg.

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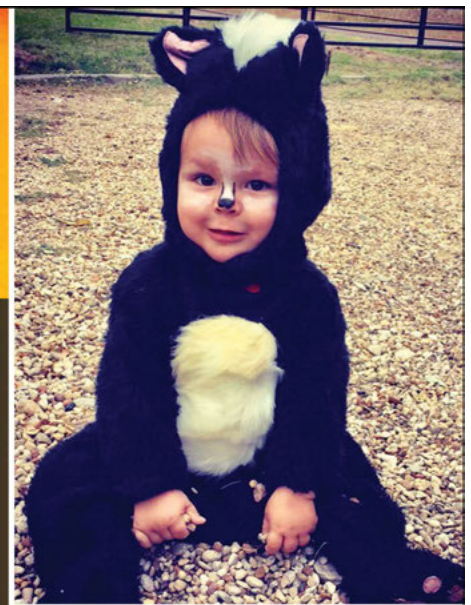
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— By Sandra Strong

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Ellis County Title Company is locally owned and operated with a highly experienced staff. Through the years, the company has grown from a small insurance company to a full-service title company. The wealth of knowledge, honesty and reliability found at Ellis County Title Company are just a few of the main reasons people choose their services when closing a real estate transaction. “People like the opportunity to choose when it comes to protecting their largest lifetime expenditure,” said Fercina Bridges, director of business development at Ellis County Title Company. “There’s longevity and a strong work ethic found here,” she explained. “The work is done in a timely manner, and it’s done correctly.”

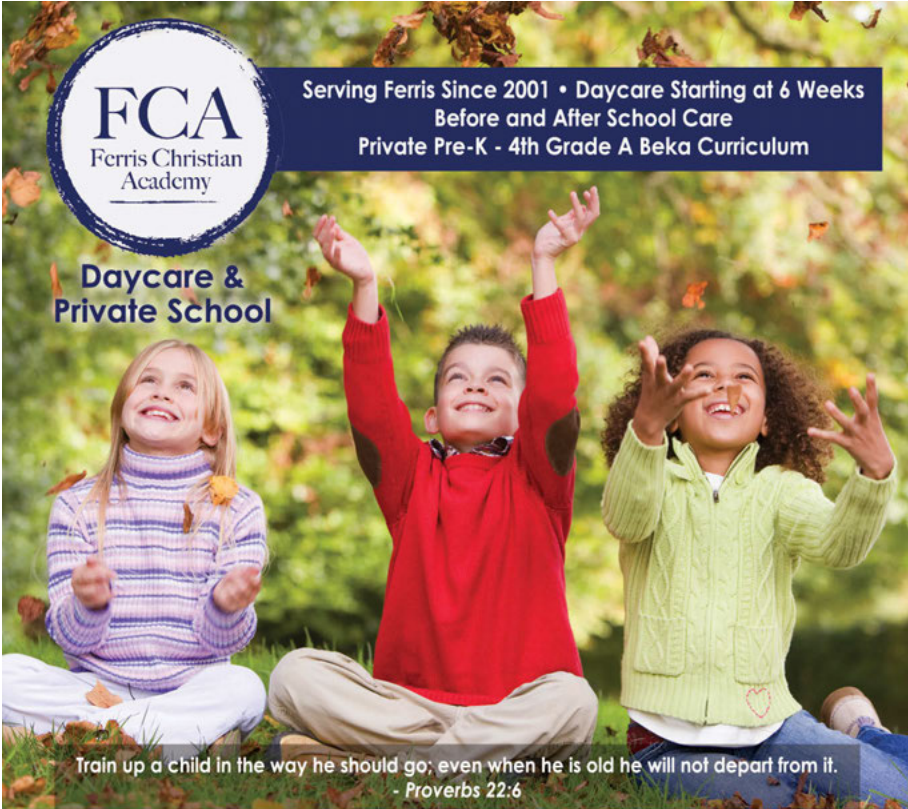
“This is a business where accuracy matters to everyone,” President Harold Barnard said. “All the details including the title examination, closing and funding are done within the company.”

Ellis County Title Company is able to look back in time to research title information they need when completing a property examination, because they have a copy of every document ever recorded in the history of Ellis County on file. The immediate access to records aids in time management that ultimately benefits their customers.

Real estate transactions can be an emotional experience for many. When all aspects of buying and selling are found under one roof, it lends to the need for a certain type of personalized care to be offered. Fercina works to support customers with their comfort and ease prior to closing, resulting in an excellent overall experience.

Harold feels it's important for the company and its staff to be involved in the community. He takes pride that Ellis County Title Company is an organization that embraces the knowledge of the younger generation — the next group of movers and shakers. "Young, knowledgeable employees will one day take this company to new heights," Harold commented.

"Title examination is a process. Title research can be fairly simple," Fercina explained, "or it can be quite extensive." The title examination results in the issuance of title insurance at Ellis County Title Company. This protects buyers against liens and title defects. Premiums charged for title insurance are a onetime cost that protects the homebuyer for as long as they own the property. "We help them recognize and understand exactly how the closing process works," Fercina said. "We have a long history of accommodating the needs of our customers, regardless of where the property is located — Ellis County, the State of Texas or beyond. We are very detail-minded people who strive for happy, satisfied customers. We provide the best experience possible for those individuals who have the power to choose." **NOW**



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Zoomed In: Cynthia Evans

By Sally Fuller

For three years, Cynthia Evans of Ovilla has been donating several hours of her time each week to North Ellis County Outreach. Cynthia learned of the opportunity to volunteer at NECO through her church, and says she dedicates much of her time to NECO because she enjoys giving back. “I just want to give back to the community,” Cynthia said. “I like helping people out, and this is a way to do that.”

In the NECO retail center, Cynthia and others sort through donated items and prepare them for resale or to be donated to another organization. While the work itself is rewarding, Cynthia’s favorite part about volunteering at NECO is “the great people who work here.”



Corey Coody of Bristol and a sophomore at Ferris High makes good use of his after-school time studying at the Ferris Public Library.



Laura and Sean Kelly and their daughter, Addyson, all of Red Oak, set out for a morning of family fun at Red Oak Founders Day.



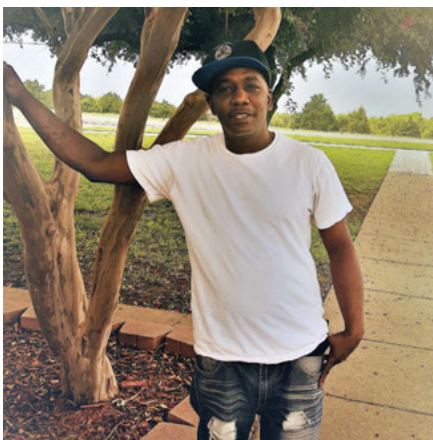
Charleigh and Grayson Wilson are all smiles as they head into Shields Elementary on the first day of school.



Brian Strickland and Kaitlyn Morgan, along with their children, Bentley and Easton, make their way through the happy crowds at Red Oak Founders Day.



Ray Hampton and Robert Sonnier of the Chris Kyle Squadron of American Legion 388 relax in the shade as they sell raffle tickets to hopeful buyers in Red Oak.



Jerry Carey of Glenn Heights catches some much appreciated shade under a crepe myrtle tree outside the city offices.



Harper Usrey enjoys an after-school snack and an ice cold slush in Glenn Heights.



Brian Henson of Oak Leaf waits to pick up Lola's new dog registration tags.

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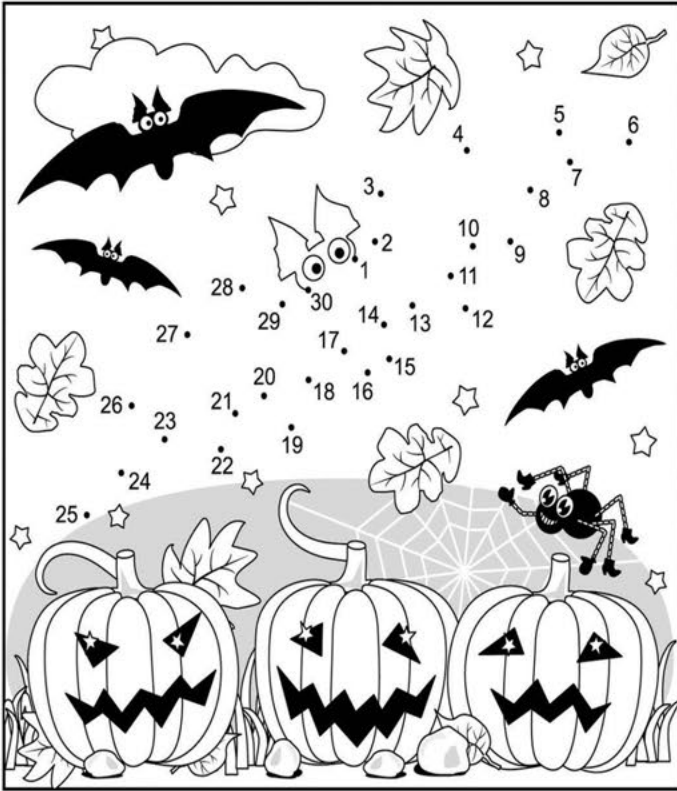


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HALLOWEEN FUN

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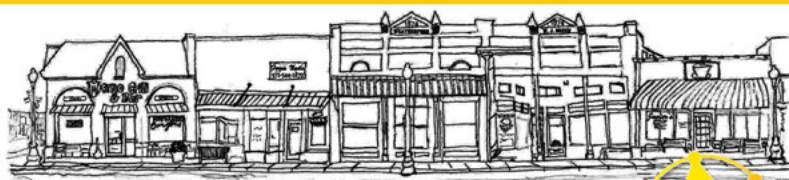
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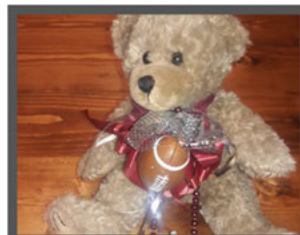


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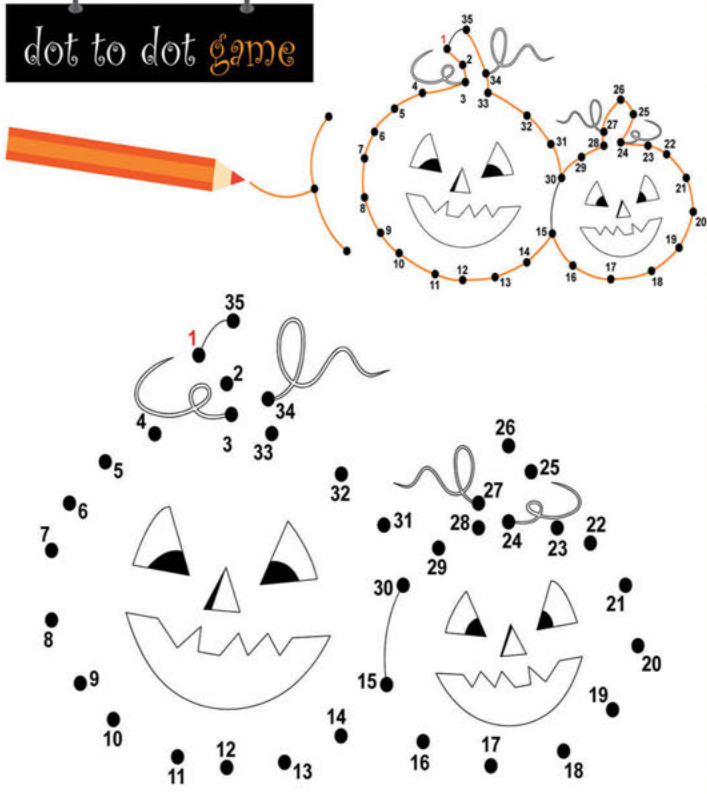
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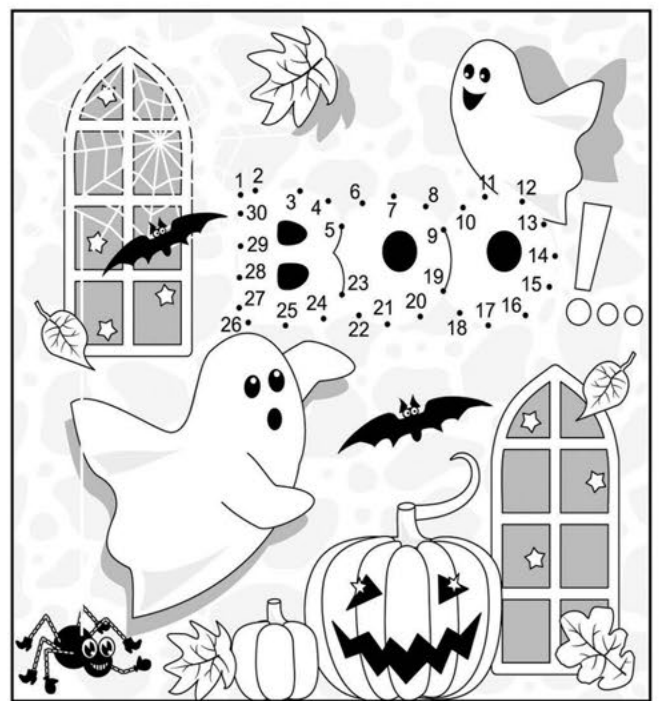


SOLUTION: HALLOWEEN

dot to dot game



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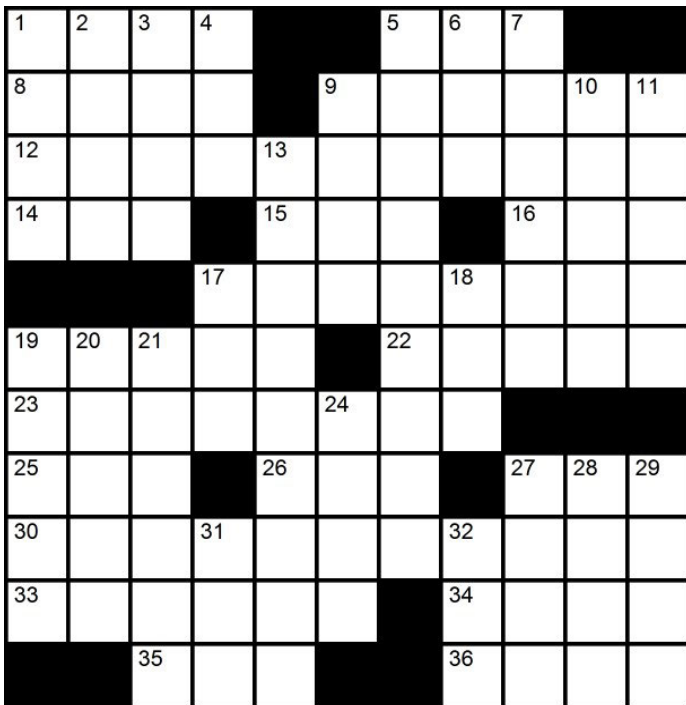
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Across

- 1 Substitution word
- 5 Opposite of 'tain't
- 8 One of the WWII Allies
- 9 Circles and such
- 12 Stand-in
- 14 Lock opener
- 15 Ask for a loan
- 16 Fuss
- 17 Interrupted
- 19 Diplomat's department
- 22 Tend the roast
- 23 Quixote's opponent
- 25 Well, --- monkey's uncle!
- 26 Air-pressure measure
- 27 Meet
- 30 They get elected
- 33 Wears slowly
- 34 Hess or Breckinridge
- 35 Deity
- 36 Noble

Down

- 1 Wait in ambush
- 2 Now it makes sense!
- 3 Catch sight of
- 4 Online address
- 5 An event might be open to it
- 6 "--- the Walrus" (Beatles tune)
- 7 Talks
- 9 Mark left by a healed wound
- 10 Initiate the break-up
- 11 Rock
- 13 Went for
- 17 Usual amt.
- 18 Record-holder --- Ripken
- 19 Hit
- 20 Indonesian island
- 21 Not digital
- 24 Horn-wearing goddess
- 27 Jack's "Chinatown" co-star
- 28 Concerning, in legal memos
- 29 Former Russian ruler
- 31 Words to wed
- 32 Mischievous child

Solutions on page 34

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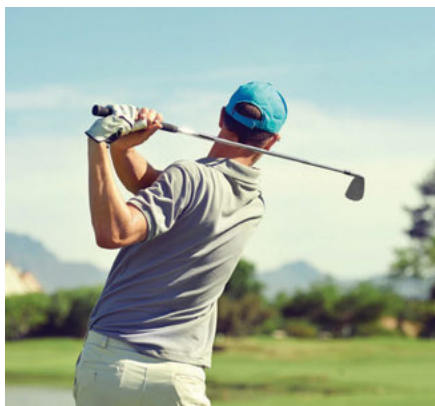
6

Ferris Pioneer Day: 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., downtown Ferris. Free family friendly fun with a parade, food vendors, craft vendors, entertainment and more.

8

Culpepper and Merriweather Circus presented by Ferris Chamber of Commerce: 5:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., Mutz Park, 598 S. Mabel St., Ferris. For more information, call (469) 309-9287.

ROISD Education Foundation Golf Tournament: 11:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Thorntree Country Club, 825 W. Wintergreen Rd., DeSoto. For more information, call (972) 617-4320 or (972) 345-4021 or email karen.anderson@redoakisd.org.



13

North Ellis County Outreach free classes: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., 404 S. Hwy. 342, Red Oak. Free classes on Budget and Finance, Nutrition and Parenting. For more information, call (972) 617-7261 or visit www.necoutreach.org.

20

Red Oak Chamber of Commerce Annual Auction and Dinner, "Casino Royale": 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m., Red

Oak Municipal Center, 200 Lakeview Dr., Red Oak. For more information, admin@redoakareachamber.org.

27

Texas Country Reporter Festival: 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., historic downtown Waxahachie. Join Bob and Kelli Phillips, hosts of the weekly TV show, *Texas Country Reporter*, for this free, one-day arts and music festival. A free concert by Shenandoah, Texas food and live music, as well as more than 250 arts and crafts booths. For more details, call (469) 309-4040 or visit www.waxahachiecvb.com.



4th Annual Spooktacular Skeet and Sporting Clays Fun Shoot: 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Ellis County Sportsmans Club, 470 W. Sterrett Rd., Waxahachie. Register as individual or team at www.iclays.com. Benefits Red Oak High School Shotgun Team. Contact Redoakhst@gmail.com for more details.

Red Oak ISD Education Foundation 5K Dash and 1 Mile Fun Walk: Red Oak High School. For more information, call (972) 617-4320 or (972) 345-4021 or email karen.anderson@redoakisd.org.

Ongoing:

Tuesdays
Ferris Public Library Afterschool Game Time: 3:30-5:30 p.m., 301 E.

10th St., Ferris, ages 7-17. Electronic gaming on Wii and PS4 shown on the large screen in the Aubrey Trussell Meeting Room.

Wednesdays

Red Oak Library Toddler Story Time: 10:00-11:00 a.m. Crafts, story time and learning games, 18 mo.-5 yrs. and caregivers. Call (469) 218-1230 for information.

Ferris Public Library Story Time:

11:00 a.m., 301 E. 10th St., Ferris. Pre-school children and their caregivers. For more information, call (972) 544-3699.

Wednesdays and Thursdays

The Red Oak Senior Citizens Group: 8:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., 207 W. Red Oak Rd., Red Oak. Light breakfast provided both days. Lunch provided on **Thursdays**. \$2 per week membership fee. Call (972) 571-0632 for more information.



Third Saturdays

Ferris Trade Days: 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., 101 S. Main St., Ferris. For more information, call Tina Miller at (817) 992-9204.

Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your current event details to sally.fuller@nowmagazines.com.

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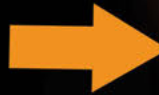
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1	L	2	I	3	E	4	U		5	T	6	I	7	S	
8	U	S	S	R				9	S	H	A	P	E	S	
12	R	E	P	L	A	C	E	M	E	N	T				
14	K	E	Y		15	T	A	P		16	A	D	O		
					17	S	T	R	U	C	K	I	N		
19	S	20	A	T	E			22	B	A	S	T	E		
23	W	I	N	D	M	I	L	L							
25	I	M	A		26	P	S	I		27	F	I	T		
30	P	O	L	I	T	I	C	I	A	N	S				
33	E	R	O	D	E	S			34	M	Y	R	A		
					35	G	O	D			36	P	E	E	R

Easy

2	7	9	6	8	3	4	5	1
3	8	4	5	2	1	6	7	9
6	1	5	4	7	9	8	2	3
1	3	8	7	9	6	5	4	2
5	2	7	1	4	8	3	9	6
4	9	6	3	5	2	7	1	8
8	4	3	2	1	7	9	6	5
7	6	2	9	3	5	1	8	4
9	5	1	8	6	4	2	3	7

Medium

2	6	1	5	3	9	7	4	8
5	7	8	4	6	2	1	3	9
3	4	9	8	1	7	2	6	5
7	9	2	3	8	6	5	1	4
1	5	3	7	9	4	6	8	2
6	8	4	1	2	5	3	9	7
4	1	5	9	7	3	8	2	6
8	2	7	6	4	1	9	5	3
9	3	6	2	5	8	4	7	1

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What's in a Name?

— By Rick Mauch

Little did Claudia Torres-Sanchez realize that her slip of the tongue would lead to a major change for her city. She discovered that if you say something enough, it comes true.

She was invited to some meetings by a friend and, during one of those meetings, she referred to the host organization by the wrong name. “I kept calling it Chamber of Commerce, and during one of those meetings someone asked ‘Why aren’t we a Chamber?’” said Claudia, the current Chamber vice president. “And now, we are.”

The Ferris Area Business Association is now the Ferris Chamber of Commerce. They were established in March. “Chambers have more appeal for new businesses coming to an area,” said Chamber President Charles Hatfield.

The group was originally called the Ferris Downtown Association. “That was a problem,” Charles said with a laugh. “FDA? We don’t have any drugs.”

But the growth in Ferris is no laughing matter. Since the recent Chamber formation, Claudia said at least two or three businesses join each month, and, as of the start of summer, they had about 30 member businesses total. “That first month, we had about six join,” she said.

Charles said the Chamber is using the tagline, “The city that bricked the world,” to promote Ferris, which is famous for its brick production. “We have bricks from Ferris in the Statue of Liberty,” he said.

To which Chamber Secretary Connie Bratcher added, “My dad found one during World War II in Okinawa.”

Among other promotions for the city are the annual Brick Festival each April (though it may move to May next year), Christmas on the Square and Ferris Trade Days (held the third Saturday of each month). The city will also host the legendary Culpepper & Merriweather Circus in early October. About becoming a Chamber, Treasurer Michael Masek said, “It really opened things up. Ferris is growing, and we’re ready for that growth.”

The Chamber also holds luncheons for members on the second Wednesday of each month. These luncheons are used to keep the community in tune with topics such as education, law enforcement and tax law changes. Their website is www.ferrischamber.com, and they encourage folks to like their page on Facebook.

“Feedback from citizens has been popular. This is very beneficial to our community,” Chamber Board Member and Ferris Mayor Jim Swafford said.

“This was a natural move to make,” Board Member Jason Crenshaw stated. “Everybody’s more engaged. A lot of big businesses are actively trying to become more involved.” **NOW**

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