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MARCH 2019

## Superman is Super Fun

Scott Marburger  
pays homage  
to his hero

## Golden Education

John Ward helps  
seniors become  
lifelong learners

In the Kitchen With  
Isabella Cannon

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## ON THE COVER

*Similarities between Dean Cain, Superman and Scott Marburger just keep snowballing.*

**Photo by**  
Lori Baur.

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# EDITOR'S NOTE



*Melissa*

Melissa Rawlins  
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*"Are we in Kansas, Toto?"*

"Of course not, Dorothy! We're in Mansfield, Texas — where the times, they are a-changing."

Redefining time isn't an easy task, but the wonderworking Mansfield Arts Commission has achieved a mini time warp. This month, March 7-17 has been proclaimed Arts Week in Mansfield.

Who cares if the "week" is 10 days long? That's three more days to take in diverse expressions, while hanging out with artists. Thespians will present a classic comedy, *The Odd Couple*, and in another venue, on a different night, they will perform a medley of Broadway classics. Screen lovers will enjoy international films. Outdoor enthusiasts will hunt for murals, while music lovers will hear intriguing piano. Kids will create their own art projects at the beginning of spring break just before the Mansfield Reads! kickoff. To celebrate St. Patrick's Day, the Josh Weathers Band will perform under the stars. And then ... The Pickle Parade and Palooza goes into full swing.

None of this would be possible without extreme coordination between supporters of the arts in Mansfield. They're welcoming input and elbow grease from the new Mansfield Arts Association, which networks artists and gives them a chance to demonstrate their creativity during its monthly meetings at the city's Chris Burkett Service Center. Even after Arts Week ends, art lovers can attend the March 18 MAA meeting for mixing, mingling and a little bit more jaw dropping.

*"Toto, it seems to me that in Mansfield, the art never stops!"*



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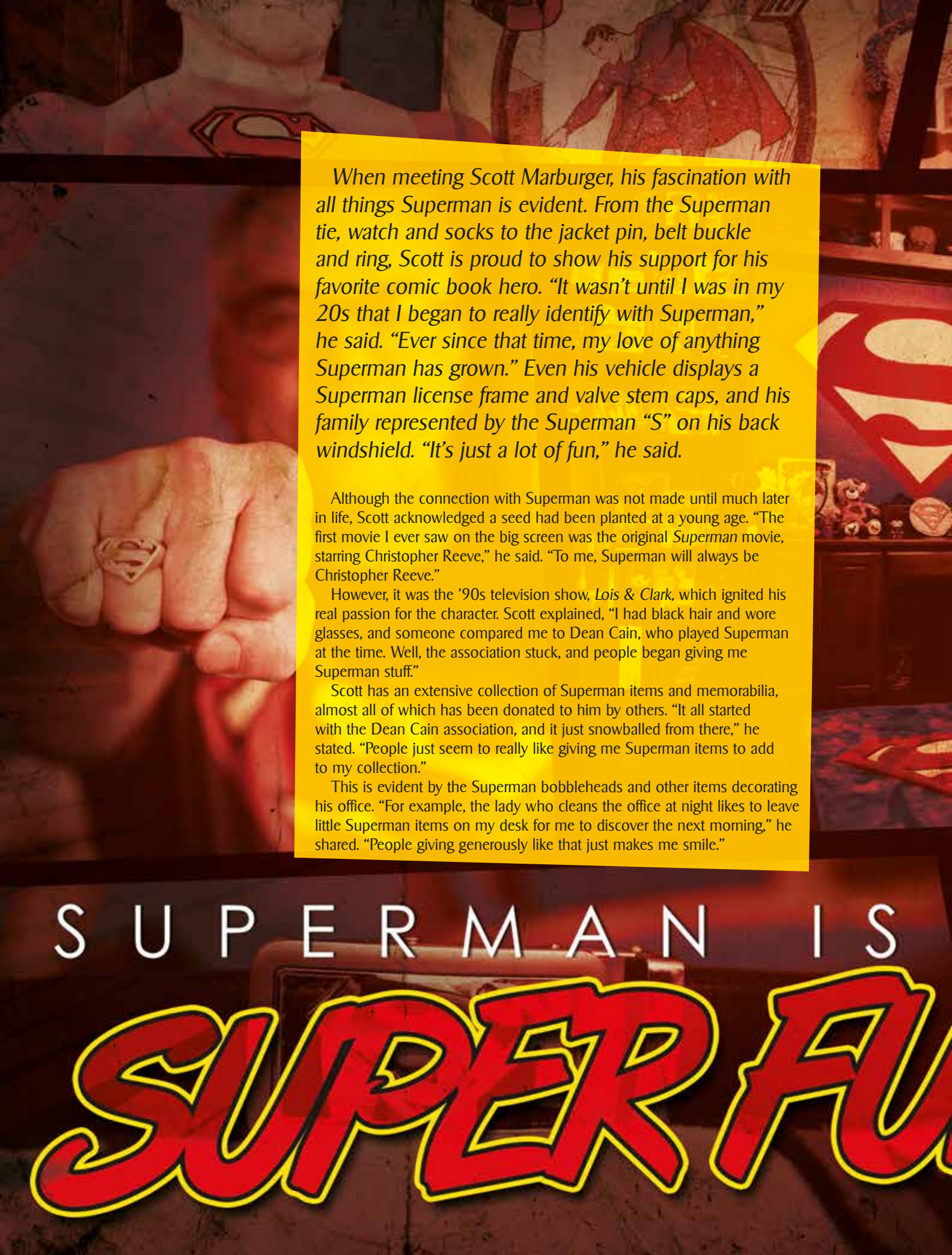


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When meeting Scott Marburger, his fascination with all things Superman is evident. From the Superman tie, watch and socks to the jacket pin, belt buckle and ring, Scott is proud to show his support for his favorite comic book hero. "It wasn't until I was in my 20s that I began to really identify with Superman," he said. "Ever since that time, my love of anything Superman has grown." Even his vehicle displays a Superman license frame and valve stem caps, and his family represented by the Superman "S" on his back windshield. "It's just a lot of fun," he said.

Although the connection with Superman was not made until much later in life, Scott acknowledged a seed had been planted at a young age. "The first movie I ever saw on the big screen was the original *Superman* movie, starring Christopher Reeve," he said. "To me, Superman will always be Christopher Reeve."

However, it was the '90s television show, *Lois & Clark*, which ignited his real passion for the character. Scott explained, "I had black hair and wore glasses, and someone compared me to Dean Cain, who played Superman at the time. Well, the association stuck, and people began giving me Superman stuff."

Scott has an extensive collection of Superman items and memorabilia, almost all of which has been donated to him by others. "It all started with the Dean Cain association, and it just snowballed from there," he stated. "People just seem to really like giving me Superman items to add to my collection."

This is evident by the Superman bobbleheads and other items decorating his office. "For example, the lady who cleans the office at night likes to leave little Superman items on my desk for me to discover the next morning," he shared. "People giving generously like that just makes me smile."

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— By Derek Jones



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Scott has made sure his family has joined the fun, as well. His three boys are named Clark, Logan and Parker, and for the superhero fan, the connections are obvious. He explained, "Clark is named after Clark Kent. Logan is named after Logan from *Wolverine*, and Parker is named after Peter Parker from *Spiderman*. Sure, they love Superman, but naturally they have gravitated to the superheroes they were named after."

His wife, Erica, is not as crazy as he is about Superman, but she is supportive. Scott smiled as he shared, "She is more into Disney's Goofy, so our whole family has something to have fun with."

Family is important to Scott, so the superhero theme serves as a focal point of fun and entertainment. "We go see every new DC or Marvel movie at the theater together," he shared. "I mean, what better way to enjoy an action movie than on the big screen the way they were meant to be seen?" The family fun doesn't stop there. "Erica painted a giant Superman S on the wall behind my desk in my home office." The giant S is in keeping with the 100-percent Superman theme of his home office. "Don't get the idea my Superman stuff has taken over the whole house," he laughed. "My wife is supportive, but she also makes sure I display most of my Superman stuff in my home office."







Currently, Scott's Superman collection is not large enough to serve as an attraction, but he is hoping one day to use his collection to benefit others. "I saw this television program featuring a guy's Chicago Cubs-themed basement, which he used to hold fundraisers," he explained. "I thought, *One day, I would like to have a room themed with Superman where I could do something similar.*"

Scott has visited the Superman Museum in Metropolis, Illinois. Although his collection does not rival that found at the museum, he did notice the exhibits contained many of the items found in his own collection. "It was really cool to see items I owned displayed there," he relayed. "It gave me inspiration to continue building my collection."

He is upfront about what motivates his admiration of Superman. "I like that Superman is guided by a strong moral compass," Scott stated. "It's not that he has unequalled strength, but that he practices restraint when using those powers." As an example, Scott referenced the television show *Smallville*. "In that show, Clark Kent is introduced to his powers one by one, and even more importantly, is guided by Jonathan and Martha Kent, when not to use his strength."

The connection with Superman is made complete with Scott's name. Scott Marburger and Superman both use the letters S and M to begin their names. With all the links between Scott and the Man of Steel, one can begin to wonder if, indeed, Scott Marburger is the living embodiment of Clark Kent. "People just associate me with Superman and like to give me Superman stuff," he assured. It would not be surprising, however, the next time a kitten is miraculously rescued from a tree, to find Scott somewhere in the vicinity. **NOW**

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# GOLDEN EDUCATION

— By Derek Jones

*John Ward has been officially retired for many years now, but that little fact will not deter him from actively giving back to the community of Mansfield. He moved to the area in 2002 and has a special place in his heart for the senior citizens of Mansfield. John explained, “I want to provide opportunities for seniors to continue to learn new things.” He then laughed, “After all, I’m a senior myself.”*

He spent his working years providing services for large companies like Zenith, Bell and Howell, Dell and IBM. He is right at home when working with engineering and computers. When the opportunity to teach computer classes to seniors at Tarrant County College presented itself, John knew it would be a perfect fit. “I attended Mansfield Methodist Church and was asked by Glenn Smith, who taught at TCC, to instruct a computer class,” John said with a smile. “I just loved it.” He was then asked to serve on the Senior Advisory Council for TCC, which is made up of about a dozen people.





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Due to various health issues with the president and vice president of the advisory council, John stepped in to take on the president's role. He is now in his third year as president of the Senior Advisory Council at TCC Southeast Campus. "It is a lot of work," John explained. "But, it is also very rewarding."

Through the work of John, the Advisory Council and TCC, senior citizens (anyone over the age of 55) can take as many classes as they like for \$20, with the exception of computer classes, which cost an additional \$10 each for lab fees. Students are in the midst of their spring semester, but already students are considering which classes they'll take during the fall semester. "I teach the computer classes, but there are also classes offered in swimming, golf, home improvement, Tai Chi and many others," John shared. "These classes are important because they offer an opportunity for seniors to get out of the house and away from the TV while learning new skills." John thought for a moment and then offered, "You know, it is important that we all become lifelong learners, and that is what we are offering at TCC."

Although TCC offers a variety of classes for seniors, John's passion is the computer classes he teaches. He serves as the instructor for the computer basics and computer maintenance classes. "The basic computer class gives instruction in simple things, like how to protect your computer from viruses," he explained. "In the more advanced class, I teach the students how to actually take a computer







apart, and then put it back together again." The classes run in two sessions, with each lasting five weeks. "I have seniors re-take the class multiple times, so they can delve a little deeper each time in understanding all the workings of a computer."

When men and women first attend the Computer Maintenance class, they seem afraid to touch the insides of a computer. During the 10 weeks of instruction, each student completely disassembles a desktop computer and then re-assembles it on their own — and becomes completely at ease. "We encourage everyone to take notes and/or pictures to be sure they can put the computer back together," John said, recalling one woman who had the biggest fear at the beginning of the semester. "She commented, 'I don't need any pictures. I can do this!'"

The instructors who teach the senior citizen classes at TCC are voluntary. "We don't do this for a financial reward," John stated. "We do it because we are passionate about our subject material and love working with seniors."

The classes offered at TCC for seniors are always expanding as the Advisory Council is constantly looking for new classes to offer. John wants to encourage all seniors to give the classes a chance. "Many seniors don't want to take classes because they don't want to feel out of place with younger people," John said. "Our class offerings allow them to take classes with other seniors and learn new skills, while forming new relationships."

John is confident the classes are effective. "It is so much fun to see a senior take a computer class and then go out and buy a computer of their own," he said. As to what keeps John motivated to work so hard during his golden years of retirement, he stated, "People are truly grateful for what you teach them, and that is all the reward I need." **NOW**



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— By Melissa Rawlins

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“Joe used to say there are sports or soccer moms. I was a therapy mom. That was in the era when services are not what they are today,” Kate said.

As professionals in neurotherapeutic education and business management, respectively, she and Joe chose to learn from their experiences and open a family-friendly center offering high-quality speech and occupational therapy and physical services their doctor may recommend for individuals who have some sort of developmental, physical or cognitive disability.

CEPT’s first therapeutic center opened in Allen in 2013. In 2015, they opened a Houston site. In 2017, the Lundgrens built the location in Mansfield to serve the area’s growing number of families needing assistance in developing everyday skills that empower more independent functionality at home, work or school.

People not homebound gain from the quality and intensity of sessions at CEPT. Four occupational therapists, two physical therapists, and four speech and language pathologists provide the Mansfield area enhanced programs dealing with autism



spectrum disorders or developmental disorders. Kate hires therapists trained in neuro-developmental technique and sensory integration, and also invests in state-of-the-art specialty equipment.

"We partner with the local schools, and support them in their process," Kate said. She brings empathy to the table and offers free "Bend an Ear" sessions for parents in crisis, needing help while navigating the world of SSI, insurance, services and resources. "I've done it twice and am happy to share my experience."

Every staff member takes time to hear customers and treats everyone with deep concern. Office Manager Nicole Sauza dedicates herself to making visits as convenient as possible for busy parents. She and Kate are fluid in their knowledge of insurances, and make sure that cash patients find CEPT reasonable. "We're doing a lot of parent education, since this is not a model that families are used to seeing," Kate said.

Kate explains to families that their collaborative model results in longer treatment visits and more time with clinicians. She advises them that it's less expensive in the long run to choose the best insurance plan and gain optimal access to services.

Always particular about the customer experience, Kate made sure CEPT has its own exclusive parking lot, so kids can safely walk directly through the door. The waiting room is pleasant, with amenities like Netflix, Wi-Fi, coffee and water. Parents who desire to drop off their child have easy access to grocery shopping, or coffee shops where they can take time to return phone calls.

A member of the Mansfield Area Chamber of Commerce, CEPT has participated in the Pickle Parade. Last year, they entered a float set up like a therapy gym. They are also involved with Autism Speaks, Special Olympics, Annie's Therapeutic Companions, the Down Syndrome Partnership of North Texas and Hugs Café, the special needs restaurant in McKinney.

Kate and Joe are invested in the special needs community, not only as parents but also as providers of services. Call them today and talk about trusting your loved one to Cutting Edge Pediatric & Adult Therapy. **NOW**

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## Zoomed In: Brandon Grimble

By Melissa Rawlins

Brandon Grimble posed for pictures after Bethlehem Baptist Church's Celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. People expressed amazement at the talent in Brandon, who is soon to be a student of both psychology and art at Tarrant County College. He drew the award-winning *People's Dream* when he was 17, inspired by his art teacher's lesson on the uncommon technique of drawing with words.

In less than two weeks, while listening to classical music and jazz, Brandon had drawn Dr. King out of his very speech, "I Have A Dream," "I started with pencil, to outline his shape," Brandon said, explaining that he completed the drawing in his first attempt. "I went with pen for the words, using them to show light and contrast."



*The family of Lamar Burns thoroughly enjoyed his performance as Seaweed in Timberview High School's Theatre production of Hairspray.*



*Aiden Le plays with the Rahman children, Spogmai, Anis and Aqsa, at Mansfield Public Library.*



*James Spurlock passionately demonstrates his technique during a meeting of the Mansfield Art Association.*



*Mansfield residents, Susan Maxwell Campbell and Barbara Berrie, join other members of the Poetry Society of Texas at their annual awards luncheon.*





Some of the employees of Level 5 Design Group gather warm coats and toiletries for the homeless.



Addison Smith, Rylie Sodolak and Kady Sodolak bare their smiles to the cold during Girl Scout cookie time.



The Cox and Mitchell families have fun in Historic Downtown Mansfield during a Third Thursday.



Nika Milevska (wearing red) has fun with friends and her mother during Victoria Milevska's figure skating class at the Star Center.

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# CookingNOW

## *In the Kitchen With*

### ISABELLA CANNON

— By Melissa Rawlins

As MISD's culinary trainer in the Student Nutrition Department, Isabella Cannon works with Dietician Denise Hayslip to create healthy, wholesome and flavor-packed meals that will challenge kids to expand their palates while still offering all the fun foods they are used to. Here, she shares recipes for dishes promoting smiles in students' eyes.

Isabella's delight in both eating and cooking started in her multicultural childhood home. Her father is Scottish and German and loves new flavors and sauces. Her mother is Mexican, Spanish and Italian. Whether serving their daughter Haggis or Chiles en Nogados, they inspired her experimentation. Now, she and her husband, Cody Cannon, make family meals with the kids a priority. "Customization is super important in our household," Isabella said, "so everyone gets exactly what they want." **NOW**

### **Lemon Oregano Chicken and Couscous Buddha Bowl**

*Serves 4.*

- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breasts or thighs**
- 1 lemon**
- 1/2 tsp. dried oregano**
- 1/2 tsp. dried parsley**
- 1/4 tsp. salt**
- 1/4 tsp. pepper**
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil**
- 1 5.9-oz. box Near East couscous**

- 2 Roma tomatoes**
- 1 cucumber**
- 1/4 cup Kalamata olives, pitted**
- 2 cups baby spinach, loosely packed**
- 4 Tbsp. crumbled Feta cheese**

- 1.** Dice thighs and/or breasts into approximately 1-inch chunks.
- 2.** Grate the lemon rind onto a plate. Squeeze the juice from the lemon into a bowl, straining out the seeds. Place lemon juice and zest, oregano, parsley, salt and pepper in a gallon Ziploc bag. Add diced chicken; close and coat chicken in marinade.

Once completely coated, add olive oil and coat again. Leave in cooler for at least 30 minutes, or overnight if time allows.

- 3.** Drain off marinade; sauté chicken over medium-high heat until it is crispy brown and cooked through with no pink, approximately 6-8 minutes.
- 4.** While chicken is cooking, make couscous according to directions on box.
- 5.** Rinse and then dice tomatoes and cucumbers. Drain olives.
- 6.** Once chicken is cooked, layer couscous, spinach and chicken in a bowl. Allow guests to top their bowl with cucumbers, tomatoes, olives and Feta. Serve with a Greek vinaigrette, if you prefer it to be more like a salad.

### **Chiles en Nogados**

*Makes 8 servings.*

- 8 poblano peppers**
- 1 lb. ground beef or pork**
- 2 garlic cloves**
- 1/2 cup yellow onion, finely diced**
- 1/4 cup golden raisins**
- 1/2 cup tomatoes, diced**
- 1 peach, diced**
- 1 apple, peeled, cored and diced**
- 1/4 tsp. cinnamon (divided use)**



### Salt, to taste

- 1/2 cup acitrón, diced (type of cactus that has been preserved in a sugar syrup)
- 1 16-oz. bottle Crema Mexicana
- 1/2 cup walnuts, roasted
- 1/8 tsp. sugar
- 1 cup pomegranate arils

1. Preheat oven to 450 F.
2. Rinse poblanos, allowing water to drain off; roast for 8 to 12 minutes, rotating every few minutes so that all sides of poblanos are charred.
3. Remove poblanos from oven; place in a prep bowl. Cover with plastic wrap. Allow to sit at least 10 minutes. Once poblanos have cooled enough to handle, remove skin. Cut a slit down the side of poblano and carefully remove seeds; rinse. Set aside until ready to stuff.
4. Cook ground beef or pork, or combination, in a pan on stove over medium-high heat. Once meat has begun to render its fat, drain the fat off and return to stove.
5. Add garlic, onion, golden raisins, tomatoes, peaches, apples, a pinch of cinnamon, salt to taste and acitrón. (If you cannot find acitrón, substitute an equal amount of dried pineapple.) Allow to cook through for an additional 10-15 minutes. You should be able to smell all of the flavors that were added.
6. Remove from oven and allow meat to cool slightly. Stuff each poblano with about 1/2 cup meat and place in baking dish. Once all poblanos have been stuffed, bake in a 350 F oven for 20 minutes.
7. While poblanos are baking, combine crema Mexicana, walnuts, a pinch of cinnamon and sugar in a food processor; puree until smooth.
8. When poblanos are done baking, transfer to a plate; spoon walnut sauce over poblano and garnish with pomegranate arils.

### Warm Curry Dip

Makes 6 servings.

- 1/4 cup butter
- 1/2 cup onions, finely diced
- 1/4 cup applesauce, unsweetened
- 2 Tbsp. flour
- 2 cups chicken broth, low sodium
- 1 Tbsp. curry powder
- 1 tsp. garlic, granulated
- 1/4 tsp. cumin, ground
- 1/4 tsp. ginger, ground
- 1/4 tsp. black pepper
- 1/4 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- Salt, to taste

1. Melt butter in a pan over medium heat. Add finely diced onion and sauté until

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fragrant (3-4 minutes). Add applesauce and stir; allow to cook another minute.

**2.** Add flour; stir until completely combined. Cook for 2 minutes, stirring occasionally.

**3.** Increase heat to medium-high; add chicken stock slowly while whisking. Allow to come to a boil and add remaining ingredients. Continue to whisk. Once sauce is bubbling and fragrant, it is done.

**4.** Serve with your favorite roasted or oven "fried" veggies, or use as a simmer sauce for chicken.



Lemon Oregano Chicken and Couscous Buddha Bowl

## Strawberry Salsa With Cinnamon Sugar Chips

Serves 16.

**1 lb. strawberries**  
**1 English cucumber**  
**1-2 jalapeños**  
**2 Tbsp. cilantro**  
**1/4 cup lime juice**  
**1/2 sweet onion**  
**Salt, to taste**  
**Sugar, to taste**  
**1/4 cup granulated sugar**  
**1/4 cup brown sugar**  
**1 Tbsp. cinnamon**  
**16 corn tortillas**  
**2 Tbsp. butter, melted**

**1.** Rinse strawberries, cucumber, jalapeños, cilantro and lime under cold running water; drain well.

**2.** Cut off the stem of strawberries, then quarter them.

**3.** Trim off the ends of the cucumber; use vegetable peeler to stripe, and then dice into 1/4-inch chunks.

**4.** Cut off stems of jalapeños; slice in half vertically. Remove seeds and veins; finely dice.

**5.** Cut onion in half; dice into 1/4-inch chunks.

**6.** Juice 1 or 2 limes, until you have 1/4 cup.

**7.** Combine strawberries, cucumbers, jalapeños, onion, cilantro and lime juice in a mixing bowl. Add salt and sugar; mix well. Allow to sit in cooler for an hour or two to help flavors meld.

**8.** While salsa is in cooler, combine sugar, brown sugar and cinnamon in a small prep bowl; mix well.

**9.** Cut corn tortillas into 4 triangles. Use a pastry brush to brush lightly with melted butter.

**10.** Sprinkle cinnamon sugar over tortillas; place on a baking sheet. Bake for 4-6 minutes in an oven at 400 F, or until golden brown. Enjoy with salsa.

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# TravelNOW

## Endless Options

— By Kelly Shannon

Imagine rolling mountain terrain, breathtakingly beautiful waterfalls, thriving woodlands and 170 miles of winding rivers. This paradise is known as the Pocono Mountains, a 2,400-square-mile region in northeastern Pennsylvania just waiting to be explored.

The Pocono Mountains, also known as “the Poconos,” is teeming with history. A popular destination to many on the East Coast, it’s a short drive from major metropolitan areas, such as New York City, New Jersey, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, D.C. Within reasonable driving distance of many airports, Allentown is the closest, and Philadelphia and Newark are the next closest. From Dallas-Fort Worth, that’s only about a 3-hour flight. Once at a nearby airport, a rental car is the best option to be able to fully explore the Poconos, which is about the size of the entire state of Delaware.

Natural scenic beauty; fun-filled, year-round activities; and luxurious accommodations make the Pocono Mountains the perfect

place for a romantic stay. The region has become a haven of world-class, luxury spas incorporating breathtaking, natural surroundings. Romantics indulge in decadent amenities, such as saunas, massage tables, log-burning fireplaces and whirlpool baths.

Accommodations are as varied as the Poconos’ landscape. Consider a bed-and-breakfast atop a mountain peak overlooking one of the Poconos’ many quiet coves, or an inn nestled among rolling hills and scenic mountains. Alternatively, visitors can stay in a historic, downtown boutique hotel that caters to romance with its vintage charm and warm hospitality.

The past decade has transformed the region into a family-friendly destination. Endless entertainment is provided, whether it be in the form of indoor water parks, arcades, adventure parks, NASCAR races, scenic train rides, festivals, ski/snowboard lessons, snow tubing or a resort with daily activities tailored to children. Options



are endless, and families return time and time again.

The Poconos' bountiful nature makes the destination shine. There are nine states and two national parks, more than 261 miles for hiking and biking, dozens of majestic waterfalls, rivers for whitewater rafting, more than 35 golf courses and lakes for boating, fishing and jet skiing. Even just driving around, visitors can catch grand scenic overlooks.

Winters offer guests the opportunity to ski or snowboard 163 ski trails, snow tube (including galactic tubing and family-style tubing), snowmobile and even snowshoe their way through snowy wonderlands.

The family will love the Pocono Mountains' miles of snowmobile trails in the winter and its wonderful selection of family-friendly resorts, motels, cottages and condos just steps away from the many lakes in the summer.

The region's water park resorts welcome families to splash and stay in any season, as they are always 84 degrees. Full-service hotels and resorts serve up extensive amenities and make for a well-appointed home base while exploring. A variety of campgrounds can be found along the rivers, lakes or in the woods.

Foodies will have a field day at a variety of restaurants around the region. Find upscale French flair at the Delmonico Room at the Hotel Fauchere, or at the French Manor Inn & Spa. End the family-fun day at Kalahari's indoor water park with a juicy burger and a milkshake — topped with a donut at B-Lux Grill & Bar. Share a sunset toast with your travel buddy at The Dock on the third largest lake in the state, Lake Wallenpaupack.

While exploring the quaint downtowns, visitors find unique cafés, bakeries, ice cream parlors and coffee shops. The local breweries and wineries offer some of the tastiest beverages on the East Coast.

The Poconos' year-round cultural tours and art exhibitions, abundant antiques, brand-name shopping and full calendar of festivals showcase the heritage, music and food of the Pocono Mountains. If you are considering a vacation to this region, the friendly professionals who manage the Pocono Mountains Visitors Bureau are happy to help. **NOW**

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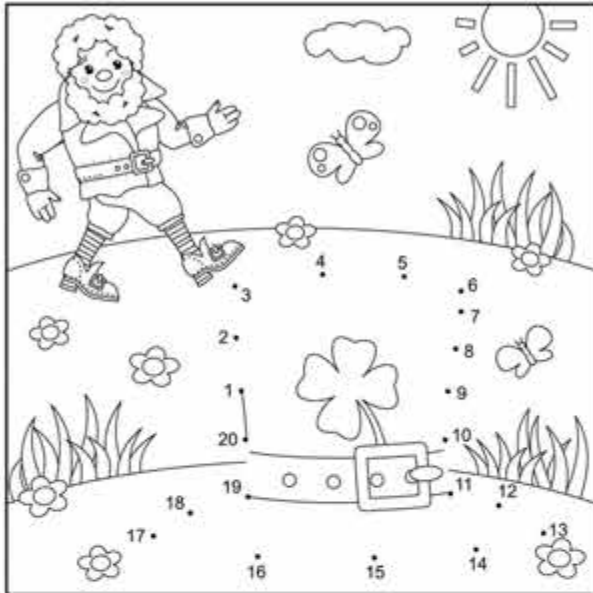
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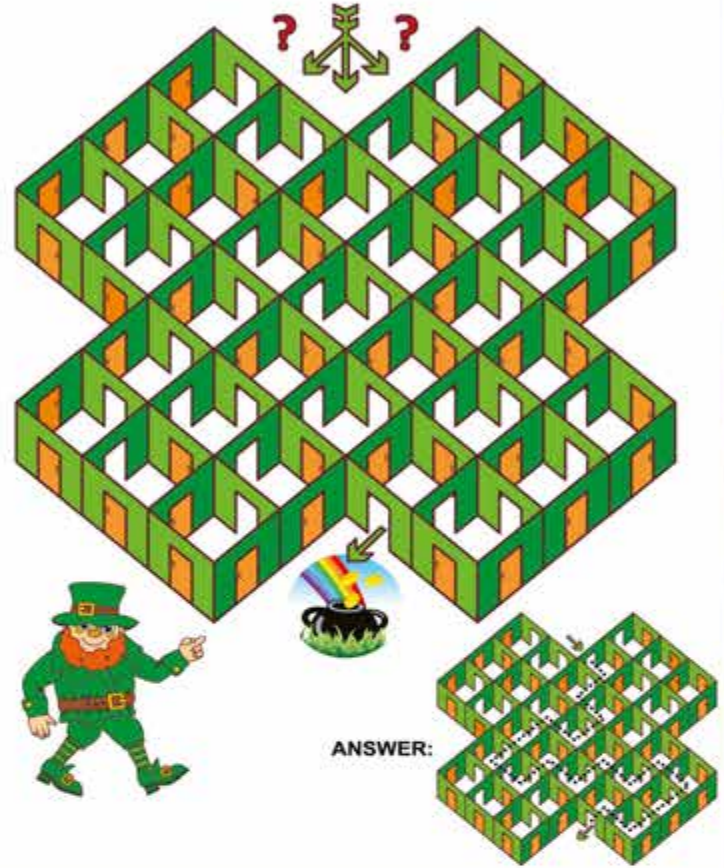
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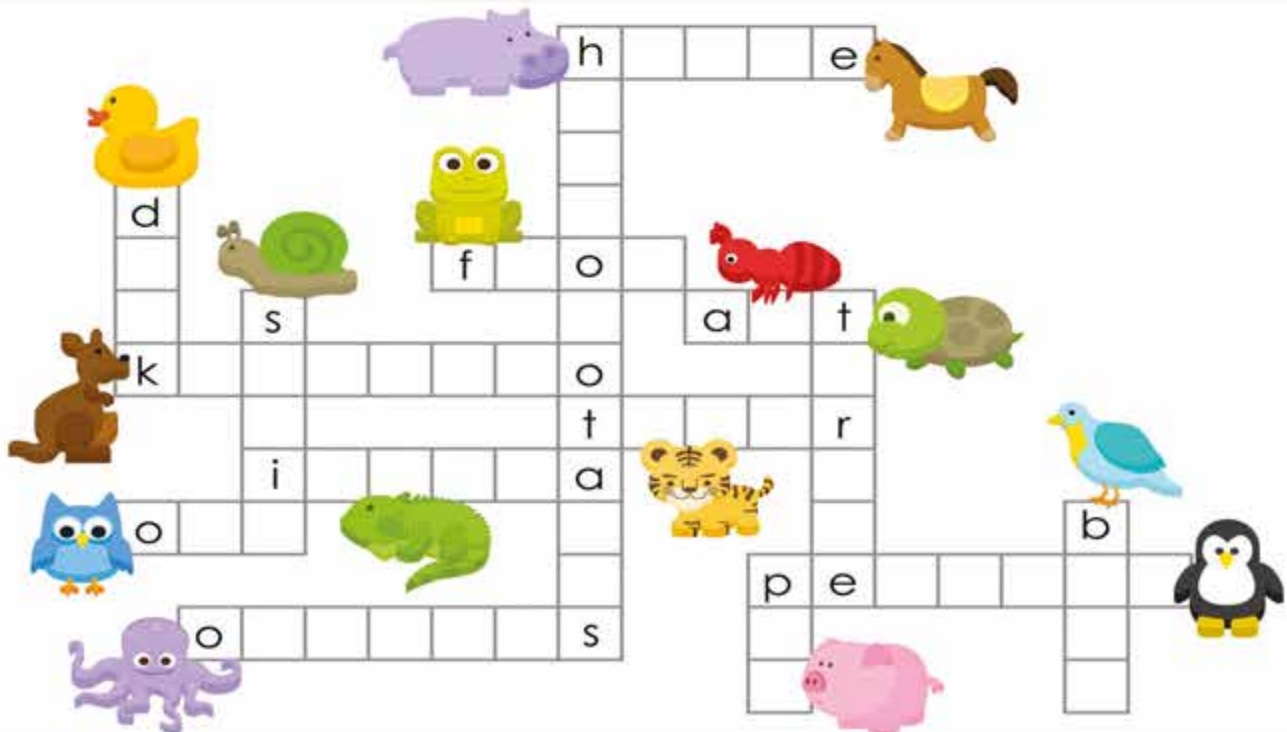


Help the leprechaun get through this quatrefoil shaped maze. Start from the top. Avoid locked doors.



ANSWER:

## Animals Crosswords





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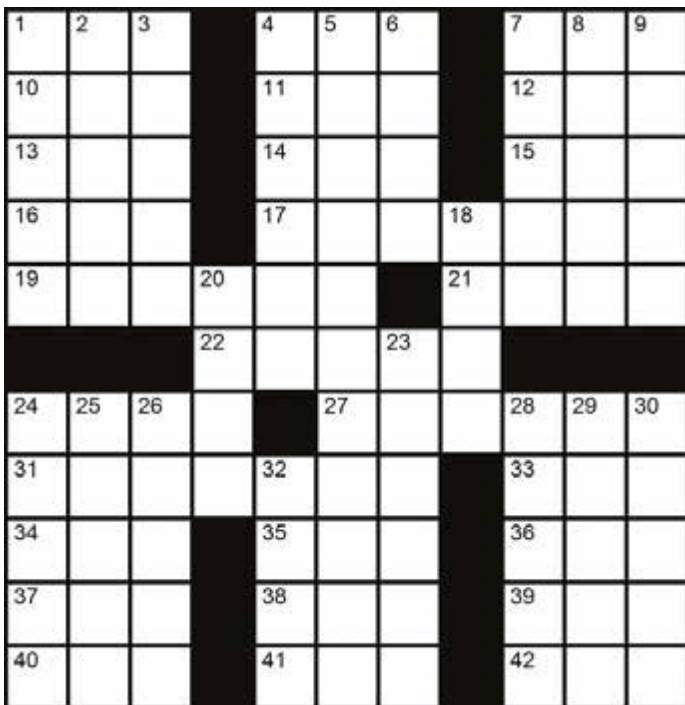
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# Crossword Puzzle



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## Across

- 1 British Delta Force equivalent
- 4 Short change?
- 7 Iraq war casus belli
- 10 Presidential advisory grp.
- 11 "Figured it out!"
- 12 Weeding implement
- 13 Diamonds
- 14 Actor --- Gibson
- 15 Admiration
- 16 Fiver
- 17 Built
- 19 Party, south of the border
- 21 Blades
- 22 Drop by unannounced
- 24 Transfer legally
- 27 Cover completely
- 31 Drafted
- 33 Observe
- 34 Free
- 35 El operator
- 36 Highest mountain in Crete
- 37 Repetitive behavior condition, for short
- 38 Atmosphere
- 39 Crackpot
- 40 Might
- 41 Statute
- 42 Navigational aid

## Down

- 1 Smell
- 2 Computer data character set
- 3 Part of an act
- 4 Woke up
- 5 Healing
- 6 An auction
- 7 "Oh, --- Beautiful Mornin'"
- 8 Lawn-care buy
- 9 Real estate documents
- 18 Nam force
- 20 Vomit
- 23 To a certain extent
- 24 Information holder
- 25 "Fear of Fifty" author --- Jong
- 26 Annie's Lieutenant-General
- 28 On drugs
- 29 Introduced, with "to"
- 30 Achievements to be proud of
- 32 College sporting org.

Solutions on page 44

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# Questions to Ask When Considering an Annuity

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A fixed annuity is an insurance product that can provide you with an income stream you can't outlive, although payments also can be structured to end after a certain number of years. Your principal and interest rate are guaranteed, based on the claims-paying ability of the issuing company, and the interest you earn is tax-deferred and will compound annually until you begin taking income.

These features are certainly attractive, but, even so, before you invest in an annuity, you will need to ask yourself some key questions, including these:

• **What other sources of guaranteed income will I have available?** One way to evaluate the value of an annuity is to determine what other guaranteed income you might have available during retirement. If you find that Social Security and any other sources of assured income, such as a pension, are enough to cover all or most of your essential living expenses, then you may not need any additional guaranteed income from an annuity. However, if these other guaranteed income streams aren't enough to meet your cost of living, then you might want to invest some of your assets in an annuity.

• **How much of my retirement funds should I consider putting into an annuity?** You'll need to determine the portion of your diversified portfolio that a fixed annuity should occupy, taking into account the nature of this investment — specifically, it's a fixed-rate, income-producing vehicle. This means you'll want a certain percentage of your portfolio in stocks, another in bonds and still another percentage in the guaranteed income from an annuity. The exact percentages will depend on your age, proximity to retirement, risk tolerance and other factors.

• **What are the issues I might want to discuss with a financial professional before investing in an annuity?** As mentioned above, you will need to determine if, and how, an annuity meets your needs and how it fits into your portfolio. A financial professional can evaluate your situation and help you answer these questions, as well as inform you about other issues related to an annuity. For example, if you decide to tap in to your annuity earlier than planned, you probably will incur surrender charges. These charges decline each year, usually reaching zero after seven years. Furthermore, different annuities come with different fees, so a financial professional can help determine what options would best suit your needs.

You'll also need to be aware that while the interest you earn is tax-deferred, it isn't tax-free. You will be taxed at your ordinary income tax rate once you start taking withdrawals, and withdrawals prior to age 59 1/2 may be subject to a 10-percent federal tax penalty. So, you'll want to consult with your tax advisor before withdrawing from your annuity.

A fixed annuity could be a valuable asset during your retirement years. But, at the same time, it's a big investment — so get the help you need to determine if you're making the right choice. **NOW**

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Sheri Scott is a 26-year veteran of the title industry. Born in Burleson, TX, Sheri entered the title business after she graduated from high school. She worked part time as an escrow assistant for a title company while attending Tarrant County College and enjoyed escrow so much she made it her career. Sheri has lived in Arlington and worked as an escrow officer for over 20 years. She takes pride in creating a pleasant closing experience for her clients and shares their excitement when they close. Sheri is married with two children, two dogs and a cat. In her spare time, she enjoys watching football, dancing, and spending time with family and friends.

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# Sudoku Puzzle

Easy

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

Medium

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

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[Solutions on page 44](#)

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# HAPPY ST. PATRICK'S DAY MARCH

## Through 4/13

### **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance:**

Free income tax services provided by IRS-certified volunteers for people earning \$55,000 or less. **Wednesdays-Fridays**, 2:00-7:00 p.m.; **Saturdays**, 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., 777 N. Walnut Creek Dr. Charlene Hurst, (817) 473-6650.

## 3/2

### **MISD Multi-Cultural Celebration:**

The community is invited to join MISD students for this free exhibition of art, food, history, ideas and people. 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., The Center for the Performing Arts, 1110 W. Debbie Ln. beckydodenhoff@misdmail.org.

### **Gator Gala:**

Dress like you're in a galaxy not so far away, and come for dinner plus live and silent auctions benefiting children and adults with intellectual disabilities. 6:00 p.m., Sheraton Arlington Hotel, 1500 Convention Center Dr. info@greenoaksschool.org.

### **Mardi Gras Gala:**

In the true New Orleans tradition, breakfast is served at 11:00 p.m. after a VIP reception, casino play, silent and live auctions. 6:00 p.m.-midnight, Walnut Creek Country Club, 1151 Country Club Dr. www.athenasocietyofburleson.org/athena-gala/.

## 3/7-3/9

### **Household Hazardous Waste Collection:**

Bring your paint, aerosol cans, electronics and recyclables along with proof of Mansfield residency. A list of accepted items is at [www.mansfieldtexas.gov/ecc](http://www.mansfieldtexas.gov/ecc). **Thursday and Friday**, 3:00-7:00 p.m.; **Saturday**, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Mansfield Environmental Collection Center, 616 S. Wisteria. (817) 728-3655.

## 3/8

### **Local Art Reception:**

Light refreshments will be served during this free program honoring local artists and kicking off the big reveal (paintings throughout the library). 6:00 p.m., Mansfield Public Library, 104 S. Wisteria St. Call Faria Matin, adult services librarian, (817) 728-3690.

## 3/9 & 3/23

### **Mulch Madness:**

Free ground yard trimmings to residents with a truck. 8:30-11:30 a.m., 24 N. Mitchell St. water@mansfieldtexas.gov.

## 3/9

### **STEM Expo:**

Witness children experiencing science, technology, engineering and mathematics for the first time in an interactive atmosphere. 9:00 a.m.-noon, 1188 W. Broad St. tgrimble@stemvanguards.com.

### **Incredibles 2:**

Bring the family, munch from food trucks and enjoy a free movie. 7:00-9:00 p.m., 110 S. Main St. [www.thelotdowntown.com](http://www.thelotdowntown.com).

## 3/12

### **Mansfield Garden Club Meeting:**

Enjoy appetizers before hearing a presentation on making Compost Tea and Worm Composting from Bill Hall, Master Composter. 6:00-8:30 p.m., Chris W. Burkett Service Center, 620 S. Wisteria St. RSVP to Donna Mendenhall, director of member engagement, (817) 475-4428.

## 3/13

### **Wine Down Wednesday:**

5:00-7:00 p.m., The Office, 1103 Alexis Court, Ste. 108. Visit [www.theofficeinmansfield.com](http://www.theofficeinmansfield.com) or call (817) 606-7059.

## 3/14

### **Business Unplugged:**

5:00-7:00 p.m., First National Bank Mortgage, 201 E. Debbie Ln. Free. Please register at [www.mansfieldchamber.org](http://www.mansfieldchamber.org).

### **Mansfield READS Kick-off:**

Friends of Mansfield Public Library hosts this night of hors d'oeuvres accompanied by the Mansfield Wind Symphony. Book lovers embark on reading *Before We Were Yours* by Lisa Wingate, while winners of

the READS photo contest are announced. 6:00-8:00 p.m., Market Street, 3145 E. Broad St. Faria Matin, (817) 728-3690.

## 3/16

### **Josh Weathers Band With Brittany Oviedo:**

Bring the family, munch from food trucks and enjoy a free concert. 7:00-9:00 p.m., The LOT Downtown, 110 S. Main St. [www.thelotdowntown.com](http://www.thelotdowntown.com).

## 3/20

### **Quilting With Heart:**

Join us if you are interested in making charity quilts and would like to learn more about and share the art of quilting. Open membership with no dues. 1:00-3:00 p.m., First Methodist Church Mansfield, 777 N. Walnut Creek, Bldg. C, Room 11. [qwhinfo@gmail.com](mailto:qwhinfo@gmail.com).

## 3/23

### **People's Law School:**

Tarrant County Bar Association and Tarrant County Bar Foundation present this free opportunity to take three 50-minute sessions in the basics of common legal issues taught by local attorneys. noon-4:00 p.m., Texas A&M School of Law, 1515 Commerce St., Fort Worth. Register at [www.tarrantbar.org](http://www.tarrantbar.org) or email [Lauren@tarrantbar.org](mailto:Lauren@tarrantbar.org).





# 3/15-3/16

**World's Only Pickle Parade and Palooza:** Free festivities for St. Patrick's Day in Mansfield actually begin **Friday** night at 5:00 p.m.; parade is **Saturday**, 1:00 p.m., Historic Downtown. Schedule: [www.pickleparade.org](http://www.pickleparade.org).

## 3/26

### Genealogy 101:

Free introduction for adults wishing to record their family tree. 6:00 p.m., Mansfield Public Library, 104 S. Wisteria St. Faria Matin, adult services librarian, (817) 728-3690.

## 3/30

### Native and Adaptive Plants for North Texas:

Learn about managing your environment sustainably with this free class. 10:00 a.m.-noon, Chris W. Burkett Service Center, 620 S. Wisteria St. Register with [Rebecca.Sales@mansfieldtx.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Sales@mansfieldtx.gov) or (817) 728-3610.

## By Appointment

### Mansfield Mission Market:

Families, seniors or anyone in MISD who needs access to food is welcome to call. Pets are provided for, as well. 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Mansfield Mission Center, 777 N. Walnut Creek Dr. For more information, call (817) 473-6650 or visit [www.mansfieldmission.org](http://www.mansfieldmission.org).

## First and Third Wednesdays

### Mansfield Lions Club Meeting:

Work closely with MISD

to provide free vision testing and eye glasses to students who need them. Noon-1:00 p.m., Mansfield Methodist Hospital, 2nd Floor Conference Room, 2700 E. Broad St. RSVP to Jane Jones, vice president, (817) 723-3817.

## Saturdays

### Free Gardening Classes:

A Texas Certified Nursery Professional teaches novices and green thumbs the top tips, techniques and trends in gardening, with topics ranging from how to grow garden-fresh

vegetables to designing a dog-friendly garden with nontoxic plants. 10:15 a.m., Calloways, 311 E. Debbie Ln. [www.calloways.com](http://www.calloways.com).



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1	S	A	S		4	C	T	S		7	W	M	D
10	N	S	C		11	A	H	A		12	H	O	E
13	I	C	E		14	M	E	L		15	A	W	E
16	F	I	N		17	E	R	E		18	C	T	E
19	F	I	E		20	S	T	A		21	O	A	R
					22	P	O	P		23	I	N	
24	C	E	D		25	E			27	E	N	G	
31	D	R	A		32	W	N	U		33	S	E	E
34	R	I	D		35	C	T	A		36	I	D	A
37	O	C	D		38	A	I	R		39	N	U	T
40	M	A	Y		41	A	C	T		42	G	P	S

### Easy

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

### Medium

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



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