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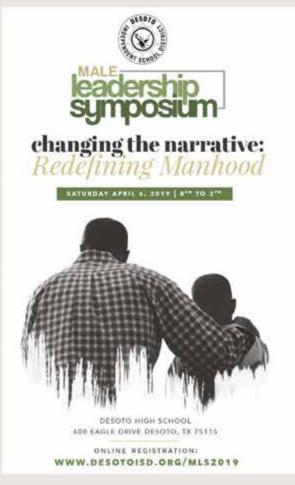
**APRIL 2019** 

## ACCELERATING EXPECTATIONS 2020

## DeSoto ISD Male Leadership Symposium: April 6

The 5th annual DeSoto ISD Male Leadership Symposium's event theme is "Changing the Narrative: Redefining Manhood," a challenge to encourage young men to think of masculinity in broader terms and to contest the status quo of what it means to become a man.

Online registration for the event is available at www.DeSotoISD.org/MLS2019.



## DeSoto ISD Pre-K Round-Up Set to Take Place April 1-3



Parents can visit DeSoto Town Center at 211
E. Pleasant Run Road to enroll their child at
DeSoto ISD early childhood campus or
partnering facility. The 2019 DeSoto ISD Pre-K
Roundup is set to take place from 7 am to 7
pm for students who will be three or four years
old during the 2019-2020 school year.

The event is a one-stop pre-k enrollment shop and can help families complete the online application and enrollment and other support. For more information, contact the DeSoto ISD Office of Early Childhood at 469.297.4587 or text Prek to 972.687.7735

#### CALENDAR

- Pre-K Round-Up: April 1-3
- Male Leadership Symposium: April 6
- · Board Workshop; April 8
- STAAR: April 9-12
- District Holiday: April 19
- Regular Board Meeting: April 22

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Queen Anne's Lace
keeps the Renaissance
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# **14** CHAMPION OF THE CITY

A new award recognizes the talents of Duncanville residents.

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MIX

From art to the wild frontier, modern technology meets yesteryear in Abilene.



18 BusinessNOW

20 Around TownNOW

24 CookingNOW

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### ON THE COVER

Ann Ellis gets Medieval at the Renaissance faire.

**Photo by** Bill Smith.

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Saturday April 6, 2019 9:00 AM - Noon

Duncanville High School 900 W CAMP WISDOM ROAD DUNCANVILLE, TX 75116

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# **EDITOR'S NOTE**

April showers...

Texas weather is very unpredictable. One day we have sun and upper 70s. The next we're dripping faucets once more and hoping the roads won't be slick. You never know if you'll need the heater or the air conditioner. As April arrives, we begin to see more and more of the warm days and fewer and fewer of the cold ones. But it's also the start of one of the high-risk times for severe weather.

We've already seen severe tornadoes in parts of the country. In the Kansas of imagination, a tornado can transport you to Oz. In the real world, they are nothing good. I know. A few years ago, I missed being caught in the tornado that hit Red Oak. Most of my family and I avoided that by mere yards and minutes, driving in the dark.

While the threat of storms is real, April is full of beautiful days, nesting birds and fresh green leaves. All the trees will have put out by now. I look forward to this time every year. It's a hopeful time. The days are longer — the sun is brighter. But, it usually hasn't gotten hot enough to melt the tar on the streets yet.

Next month it may already be hot, but for now, it should be pleasant between the showers — plenty of sun, but not uncomfortable. Time to work in the garden, start a tan, finish a project or two out in the garage ... with the door up.

So, enjoy the spring and whatever rains come. Each month comes but once a year.

Bring on the May flowers!



## **Hillcrest Baptist Church** invites you to



# **SUNDAY, APRIL 21**

9:00 AM

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11:00 AM SPANISH

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## hillcrestbc.com/easter

Celebrate the Resurrection through song, scripture and the spoken word. Be a part of this exciting evening as we worship our risen Savior!



SUNDAY, APRIL 14 . 5:00 PM

Visit us online at HILL CRESTBC.COM, or call 972.291.3521 for more information.



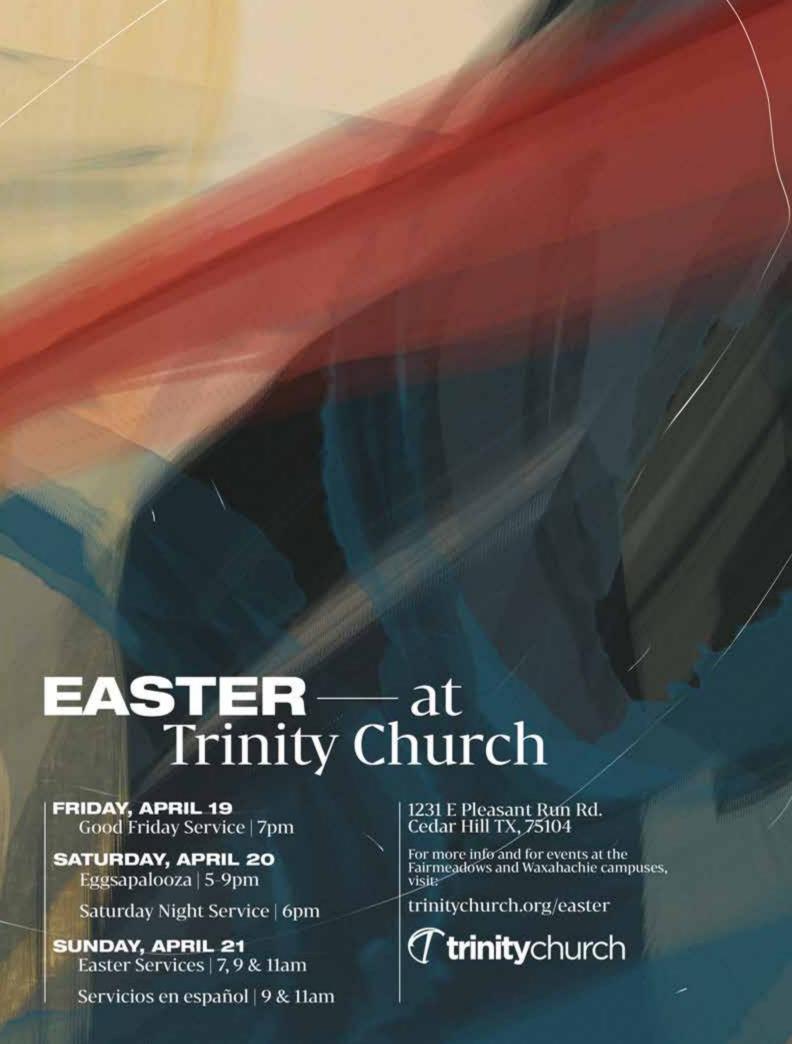




In addition to our Easter Services, we meet weekly on Sundays.

Traditional Worship: 9:00 AM
Contemporary Worship: 10:30 AM
Spanish Worship: 11:00 AM
Sunday School: 9:00 & 10:30 AM





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— By Adam Walker

Have you ever been to a Renaissance fair? Have you ever thought about how much fun it would be to be part of one? Cedar Hill's Ann Ellis doesn't have to imagine. She packs up reality and moves into the 1500s every spring.

"Back in 1983, I became friends with this guy, and then with all his other friends. We heard about Scarborough Faire in Waxahachie, which was really new then, and we decided to go audition as a group. It sounded like a great chance to go and not be ourselves. We all got in. After that first year, the boyfriend moved on. I stayed." And Ann has been a regular at the Scarborough Renaissance Festival, rarely missing a season for the last 36 years.

Much of her time at Scarborough is spent with a singing group called Queen Anne's Lace. "We're an a cappella group. We've currently got 13 women, though we've been singing for 30 years, so there are a lot of alumni. At our last reunion, we had 20 women on stage. Every one of us has been on cast at Scarborough both as a stage act and as members of the performing company. But once a Lace, always a Lace. And it's a lot of fun because we sing music from the Medieval period all the way up to the 1960s."

The singing group's name evokes both the frilly blooms of the wild carrots that grow all over, and any of the several queens of England named Anne, including two of Henry VIII's wives. And that's important, since Scarborough Faire is set during Henry's reign. "In recent years, the fair has been set in 1533, but this year, we're rewinding to 1521, early in Henry's reign."





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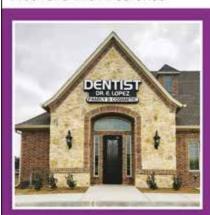
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Part of that original group of Ann's friends stayed on as another performing group called The Flaming Idiots. "Over the years, I've seen friends from the early years have kids who have grown up and are, themselves, part of the cast now. Being part of the cast is a big commitment, and it can be a strain on couples if only one of them is involved. But Jason, the love of my life, has been incredibly supportive, even though he isn't involved. I'm blessed beyond measure to have a spouse like this."

Ann sees spending a few weeks a year as a "rennie" as an important outlet. "Working there is a lot of fun. It's a very inclusive environment. We have doctors, lawyers, veterinarians, high school students, college students, people who bring their kids with them, all working in the cast. It's like your typical high school musical, only age everyone 10 years or more.

"I think it's important to have outlets like this, because the mundane world can get to you. I work as a permit technician for a local municipality. It requires a lot of blank face. If you want to keep up your mental health, you need a hobby outlet for creativity, a place where you don't need to worry about laughing too loud. The energy is like blowing up a balloon for weeks before opening day, the balloon getting fuller and fuller. Then on opening day, it pops and all that energy flows out over the fair site. We're 50 to 100 costumed cast members among 13,000-14,000 guests, every day! We have a lot of fun, but as performers, part of our job is to draw the visitors into the fun."

Ann and her sisters in song work on their costumes, to be sure they are period correct. That can mean anything





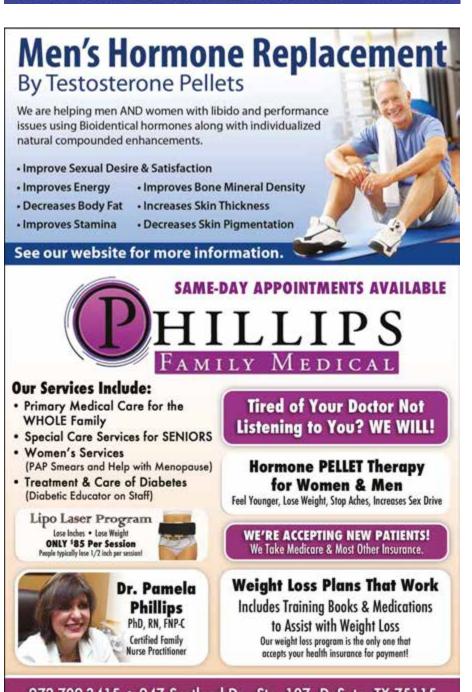
from researching fabrics and styles to learning what dyes were available and how much they cost back then. "Blue is my favorite color, so every costume I've worn has had some blue in it. I started out as a peasant, and I had a brown skirt, but I wanted some blue in my costume. I was told I couldn't have blue, as a peasant, because it was too expensive. So, I did my research, and found out what blue dyes were available then, and how much they cost. I gathered my documentation and took it back to them. I got my blue. Now my costume is royal blue, and each of the Laces has a different color dress. It's part of our look."

And while that may sound like the performers take their characters and performance very seriously, it's all about having serious fun. Ann and her fellow Laces and other cast members manage to maintain flawless, in-character interactions not only with visitors dressed in their own Medieval garb, but folks dressed in 21st-century jeans and flip-flops, Trekkies in Starfleet uniforms, Stormtroopers equipped with blasters, Dungeons and Dragons characters, anime heroes — and just about anything else. It's all about having fun, so nothing legal is out of bounds.

"I tell people all the time, if you've never been to a ren fair, you owe it to yourself to go at least once. If the only fair you've ever been to is the State Fair of Texas, we have the booming voice of King Henry VIII instead of Big Tex. There's plenty of music and fun that you won't find on your smartphone screen. I love seeing children at the fair giggling their heads off, or a proposal of marriage during the court dancing. And in the midst of all the fun, you might learn some real history — with no test at the end! If you've never been, Go! I dare you!" NOW



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## ENROLLMENT

Pre-K Round Up April 25 & 26, 2019

Duncanville High School Shine Performance Hall 900 W. Camp Wisdom Rd. Duncanville, TX 75116

Date: April 25, 1:00 pm - 8:00 pm April 26, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Students must be 4 years old on or before September 1, 2019.

Pre-K Tuition Classes Available duncanvilleisd.org/Pre-K for more information

## QUALIFICATIONS FOR FREE PRE-K

Must meet at least one of the listed criteria:

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## DOCUMENTATION

Items must be presented at time of registration:

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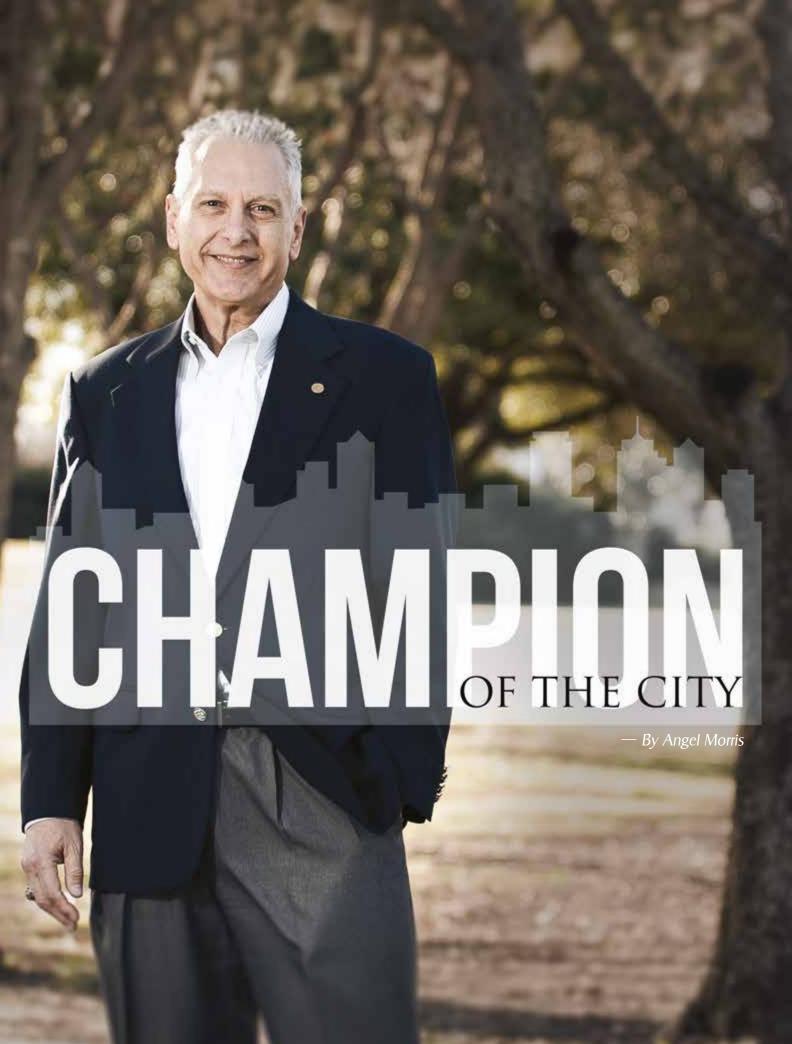
Student's Birth Certificate

Student's Social Security Card

Student's Up-to-Date Immunization Record

> Proof of Income for Free Pre-K





When Duncanville's Barry Gordon campaigned for mayor last year, he and his wife, Marlyse, went door to door meeting residents. Street by street, they met many interesting locals. "We were so impressed by the caliber of people, we wanted to recognize them somehow," Mayor Gordon explained. "Duncanville has a legacy of athletic champions, but we also have people who are leaders in their fields, whether that is business, industry, education, art. music. media and so on."

As a result, Mayor Gordon introduced the Champion of the City Award last fall. The first recipient was a Duncanville High School student whose art was selected for display in the U.S. Capitol. The second was a pair of students who earned second place in a national government/debate competition. "Our third recipient is a professional in the medical field," Mayor Gordon noted. "The award is not limited to students."

Honorees are recognized at city council meetings, receiving a certificate and a city medallion. "I want this recognition to be evidence to the entire community of the wonderful residents of Duncanville and their achievements," Mayor Gordon explained.









The mayor is no stranger to achievement himself. He retired after 33 years with the Army & Air Force Exchange Service, where he was senior vice president. He is past president of Duncanville Community and Economic Development Corporation, past vice president of the Tax-Increment Financing District, past member of the city's Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee and current member of Rotary International and Lions Club.

Mayor Gordon only considered a city council role after being approached by a fellow resident of the community. "I never had political aspirations. It was only after much discussion and prayer with my wife that I committed to running for mayor," he admitted. "I did not know how to conduct a campaign and relied on a great support group who got me to this point. But it is strictly because I felt this was the Lord's will for the next stage of my life that I agreed to campaign."

Since winning the election last fall, Mayor Gordon admits to a learning curve. "There are a multitude of laws surrounding how a city governs itself. I'm still learning all that, as well as how a mayor conducts himself with regard to the responsibilities of a city council," he explained. "Being mayor is vastly different than being an appointed leader in business. It is no longer a singular direction of action, but a combined aggregate in which the majority makes decisions toward actions."

Nevertheless, Mayor Gordon's professional expertise serves him well in the role. "My wife and I moved 14 times during my career, and these moves took us around the world, from England and Egypt to Japan, Germany and elsewhere, giving us a global perspective and an appreciation of different cultures and behaviors," he remarked.





The Gordons first resided in Duncanville in 1976, then settled here again in 1998. "We have become a more diverse society, to our credit. Now the goal is to attract young families and people seeking the vibrant, attractive, progressive community we want our city to be," Mayor Gordon said, explaining how the recent passing of \$21 million dollars in bonds will serve Duncanville.

While Duncanville is 95-percent built out, Mayor Gordon said city leaders are working to use remaining land and rehab existing facilities in the city's best interest. "We want to be astute and deliberate about our development to maintain the character of our city with a balance of growth," he shared.

The mayor encourages residents to share their ideas about the city, and is doing everything he can to accept invitations to meetings and gatherings. "I'll admit, the role of mayor is more time consuming than I could have imagined," Mayor Gordon said. He also maintains a consulting practice in strategic planning and owns and operates a logistics business. He juggles roles as both an adjunct and online business professor for area universities. as well.

Nominees for the Champion of the City Award are accepted through the mayor's office. In the future, those selected may be invited to participate in community events, such as the Fourth of July or Christmas parades. "I hope this award has traction and takes on a life of its own even after I'm no longer here," Mayor Gordon said. "A champion is a visionary — a proponent of a cause they believe in. I believe in this city, and I hope this award serves to champion Duncanville's own champions." NOW







# Medi-ssage Wellness

- By Adam Walker

Medi-ssage Wellness 920 E. Hwy. 67, Ste. 112 · Duncanville, TX 75137 (972) 349-9560 · Fax: (972) 349-9566 Cell: (972) 835-2902 medisage4u@gmail.com medi-ssagewellness.com

Hours: Monday-Friday: By appointment only, 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Saturday available by request. Sunday closed.

Yolanda May of Medi-ssage Wellness offers medical and therapeutic massage on referral by a physician. "This is not a spa," she said. "All of our patients come to us by referral. Your doctor writes you a prescription, just like he would for a pharmacy or for an MRI. We offer treatment for a wide variety of medical conditions. I've been doing this for 30 years. I love helping people feel better mentally and physically."

Medi-ssage Wellness offers treatment for conditions from amputees with phantom limb pain to burn patients, from carpal

tunnel syndrome to MS, Parkinson's and AIDS. "We do oncology massage for cancer patients to help with fatigue and lymphedema to encourage proper functioning of the lymphatic system. Studies have shown that massage helps energy levels during treatment. But there are a lot of regulations for treating cancer patients with massage. It's a specialized skill."

Yolanda's facility is set up for everything from traditional massage to aquamassage to a Vichy room that provides a special shower treatment for eczema or burn patients. "Burned skin can't sweat, and it itches a lot. We offer massage to keep the skin lubricated with salves and the Vichy shower to clean crevasses and sores and to keep the skin loose," Yolanda said. She is always interested in the newest techniques. "You need to know a lot about various diseases and the body. With a diabetic patient, you need to know when they had their last dose of insulin and how many units. The doctors send over the patients' charts, so I can write a proper treatment plan."

The facilities maintain an up-scale atmosphere with a mostly Mediterranean flair, but touches of India and Japan are here and

there. The wet room offers a Jacuzzi that is equipped for peroxide baths and enzyme treatments, surrounded by Roman columns and statuary. Rich rugs and wall hangings make the building feel more like a residence than a doctor's office. Several rooms house massage chairs. One has an ion gravity bed.

"I'VE BEEN DOING THIS FOR 30 YEARS. I LOVE HELPING PEOPLE FEEL BETTER MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY."

"We see a lot of student athletes and cheerleaders for sports injuries," Yolanda said. "We see a lot of pulled hamstrings and such. We teach them how to be aware of their mind and body, how not to reinjure themselves."

Anger management is another service Yolanda offers. "I do biofeedback for stress management and pain management. When the courts order anger management classes, biofeedback can help. It's a technique for control. People don't even know why they are angry. There are so many triggers. Biofeedback is also useful for treating migraines. It can help identify the triggers for headaches and reduce the duration of symptoms."

Massage is another technique Yolanda uses for migraine relief, but it is also useful for TMJ, fibromyalgia and other pain conditions. "We can use massage for diabetic and other forms of neuropathy.

"We aren't set up to take Medicare, but we offer special rates and payment plans for people who are eligible for Medicare," she said. "We do accept most insurance plans and workers' comp. After your physical therapy ends, insurance will pay for aftercare, which we provide."

If medical, therapeutic massage is what you are looking for, ask your doctor for a referral. Yolanda and her team at Medissage Wellness are ready to serve. NOW







# **Around Town**



Fire Marshal Mike Trousdale celebrates his retirement.

# **Zoomed In:**Adrian Hawkins

By Adam Walker

Coach Adrian Hawkins got all dressed up to lead the Trinity Christian School Lady Tigers basketball team to their first ever state championship. "I was a student at Trinity in eight and ninth grades, and graduated from DeSoto High School. Then after 20 years of coaching boys' teams at different schools, I came on as an assistant coach, three years ago, when my daughter started playing here," Coach Hawkins remembered. "She's a senior now, and I've been head coach for two years. I'm really proud of my girls. We had a tough season, but we finished 25 and 3. Our only three losses this season were to 5-A and 6-A schools. We even beat a 7-A school at a tournament in Georgia!"



The Duncanville Chamber of Commerce honors Rev. Ginger Hertenstein and Kasey Cheshier as woman and man of the year.



Dr. Emilio Lopez and staff celebrate the grand opening of Family & Cosmetic Dentistry's new location in Cedar Hill.



DeSoto Library's Teen Advisory Board makes custom candy treats to share.



DeSoto welcomes Dunkin' Donuts.



The Duncanville Police Department recognizes Capt. Jason Wigginton, Firefighter lared Gilbert and Firefighter Brent Nabors for their work as SWAT medics.



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Shantrell Barnes is a proud daughter of Louisiana. "I'm the youngest daughter of a born-and-raised Louisiana woman who was taught by some of the best cooks in New Orleans," she said. "My mother and aunts cooked for their families in big commercial pots, and we threw big family gatherings for any reason. Being from a state surrounded by water, seafood lived in our refrigerators and deep freezers. We are a people that love good food and family.

"I've been married to a great man for over 20 years, and our three beautiful, smart girls are being raised on good Louisiana food," Shantrell said. "Their favorite dish is gumbo, which we cook for special occasions and holidays. I love sitting around the table. I love to share my favorite dishes!" Now

#### **New Orleans Beignets**

1/4 cup warm water (105 F-110 F)

I tsp. active dry yeast

1 tsp., plus 3 Tbsp. sugar (divided use)

2 Tbsp. all-vegetable shortening

1/2 tsp. salt

1/2 cup boiling water

1/2 cup evaporated milk

I large egg

4-5 cups all-purpose flour

Vegetable oil, for frying

1 cup confectioners' sugar

- **1.** In a small bowl, combine warm water, yeast and 1 tsp. sugar. Let stand until foamy, about 5 minutes.
- **2.** In a large bowl, beat remaining 3 Tbsp. sugar, shortening and salt at medium speed with a mixer until smooth. Add boiling water and evaporated milk, beating until combined. Add egg, beating until smooth. Stir in yeast mixture.
- **3.** Gradually add 3 cups flour, beating until smooth. Beat in enough remaining flour to make a soft dough.
- 4. On a lightly floured surface, turn out

dough; knead 6 to 8 minutes, or until dough is smooth and elastic. Place dough in a lightly greased bowl, turning to grease top. Cover; refrigerate for at least 30 minutes, or up to 2 hours.

- **5.** On a lightly floured surface, roll out dough to 1/4-inch thickness. Using a sharp knife, cut dough into 12 3-inch squares. Do not re-roll dough.
- **6.** In a large Dutch oven, pour oil to a depth of 3 inches; heat to 350 F over medium heat. Fry dough in batches for 2 to 3 minutes, or until golden brown, turning dough frequently during frying. Drain on paper towels. Sift confectioners' sugar over hot beignets. Serve warm.

#### Gumbo

1 lb. (4 sticks) salted butter

3 cups all-purpose flour

2 bell peppers, medium diced

I onion, chopped

1 1/4 gals. (20 cups) chicken stock

2 Tbsp. Creole seasoning

I tsp. ground black pepper

1 tsp. dried thyme

- 1 Tbsp. garlic, chopped
- 2 bay leaves
- 2 Tbsp. kosher salt
- 1 lb. andouille sausage, cut into 1/4-inch-thick slices
- 1 lb. blue crab
- 3 1/2 lbs. chicken, roasted and deboned
- 3 lbs. shrimp

Hot sauce, to taste

Boiled rice, as an accompaniment

- **I.** In a 12-quart stockpot, melt butter over moderately low heat. Gradually add a third of the flour, stirring constantly with a wooden spoon; cook, stirring constantly, for 30 seconds. Add a third more flour; stir constantly for 30 seconds. Add remaining third of flour; stir constantly for 30 seconds. Continue to cook roux, stirring constantly, until it is the color of dark mahogany, about 30 to 45 minutes.
- **2.** Add bell peppers; stir constantly for 30 seconds. Add onions; stir constantly for 30 seconds. Add the stock to the roux, stirring constantly to prevent lumps.
- **3.** Add the next 7 ingredients; bring to a boil. Simmer, uncovered, 45 minutes, skimming off any fat and stirring occasionally.
- **4.** Add blue crabs; simmer for 10 minutes. Add chicken; simmer for another 10 minutes.
- **5.** Add shrimp; allow it to cook for 7 minutes. Adjust seasoning with hot sauce. Serve over rice.

#### Jambalaya

- 1 lb. boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 1/2 lb. andouille sausage, diced
- 1 28-oz. can diced tomatoes
- I medium onion, chopped
- I green bell pepper, seeded and chopped
- 2 stalks celery
- 1 cup reduced-sodium chicken broth
- 2 tsp. dried oregano
- 2 tsp. Cajun or Creole seasoning
- 1 tsp. hot sauce
- 2 bay leaves
- 1/2 tsp. dried thyme
- I lb. frozen peeled and cooked shrimp, thawed
- 2 cups cooked rice
- **1.** In a slow cooker, combine first 7 ingredients; stir in oregano, Cajun seasoning, hot sauce, bay leaves and thyme.
- **2.** Cover; cook on low for 7 hours, or on high for 3 hours.
- **3.** Stir in thawed shrimp. Cover; cook until shrimp is heated through, about 5 minutes. Discard bay leaves; spoon mixture over cooked rice.



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#### Fried Shrimp Po Boys

1 1/4 cups buttermilk

1/4 cup Louisiana Hot Sauce

1/4 cup Creole seasoning (divided use)

1 1/2 lbs. medium shrimp, peeled and deveined

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour 6 cups vegetable oil, for frying

Salt, to taste Freshly ground black pepper, to taste

4 6-inch po-boy buns, or French baguettes, split lengthwise

2 Tbsp. butter, melted

Mayonnaise

Shredded lettuce, for serving I medium tomato, thinly sliced

**1.** Thoroughly combine buttermilk, hot sauce and 2 Tbsp. of Creole seasoning in a medium mixing bowl. Add shrimp; marinate for up to 30 minutes in refrigerator.

**2.** In a medium bowl, combine all-purpose flour and remaining Creole seasoning, mixing well.

**3.** Heat vegetable oil in a medium-size heavy pot or deep-fryer to 360 F.

**4.** Working in batches, remove shrimp from the buttermilk marinade; transfer them to the flour and Creole seasoning mixture. Dredge to coat, shaking to remove any excess breading. Cook shrimp in small batches in the oil until golden brown and crispy, 2 to 3 minutes. Remove with a slotted spoon; transfer to paper towels to drain. Season with salt and pepper; set aside.

**5.** To assemble, spread bottom halves of the bread with melted butter. Generously spread top halves of the bread with mayonnaise. Divide shrimp evenly among the bottom halves. Add lettuce and tomato. Place top halves over the fillings and press lightly; serve immediately.

#### Crawfish Etouffee

1 1/4 sticks butter or margarine

I medium onion, diced

I stalk celery, diced

I small bell pepper, diced

1 lb. peeled crawfish tails

1 tsp. Cajun seasoning

1/2 tsp. salt

1/2 tsp. cayenne pepper

2 Tbsp. parsley, chopped (optional)

3 Tbsp. green onions, chopped (optional)

2 cups cooked white rice

**I.** Melt butter or margarine. Add vegetables; sauté on medium heat until translucent (15 minutes). Add crawfish and spices; stir.

**2.** Cook, covered, on low heat for about 15 minutes. Add parsley or green onions; serve over rice.





# THE LOCAL TABLE

One cannot think well, love well, sleep well, if one has not dined well.

- Virginia Woolf









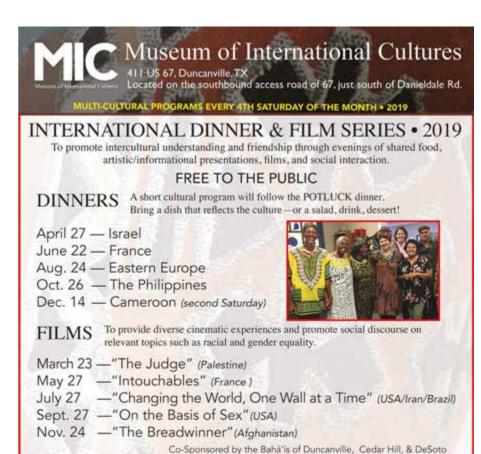












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> > Or at www.DallasCountyVotes.org

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ELECTION DAY May 4 at DeSoto ISD Conference Center behind the Administration Building at 200 E Belt Line Road, DeSoto, TX 75115

> Political Advertisement paid for by the Marikay Dewberry Campaign Fund, Stacle Moseley, Treasurer, 512 N. Hampton Rd #211, DeSoto, TX 75115



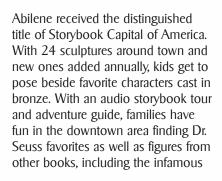
What began in 1881 as a T&P Railroad stop, Abilene, Texas, became so much more. Two to three hours from the Metroplex, Abilene is home to Dyess Air Force Base, three major universities/colleges, and one place where families can find adventure, history and art all rolled into one city.

Designated as a state cultural art district, throughout the year opportunities abound for visitors. A favorite time to visit is early June when the Children's Art & Literacy

Festival runs for three days. Special events and activities allow children of all ages to enjoy favorite literature and try their hands at art. From the Storybook Parade to children's artists, costume contests and much more, this weekend brings books to life.

But any time of the year, Abilene features multiple places children adore. In fact, on October 17, 2018,







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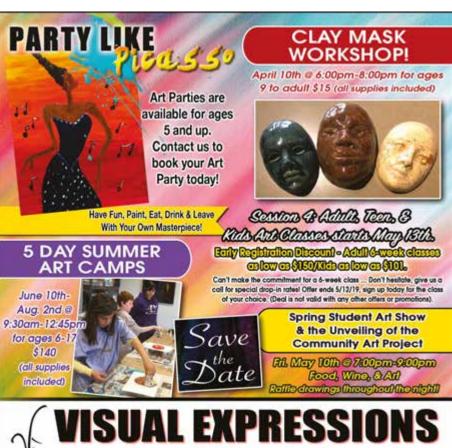
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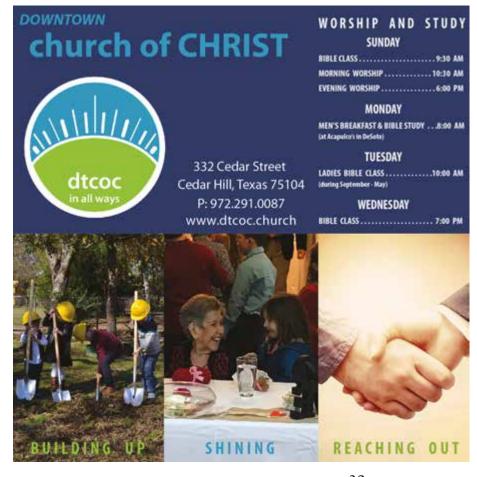
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No, David. In the Adamson-Spalding Storybook Garden, kittens, dinosaurs, Stuart Little, Marcel and Wilfred. Charlotte and Wilbur, plus others wait for visitors of all ages. These statues evoke memories of favorite nursery rhymes and beloved tales.

In addition to the sculptures, don't miss the National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature. The museum celebrates the artistic achievements of children's book authors. During exhibits, they also offer free art activities for kids and their parents.

The Grace Museum and Center for Contemporary Arts are wonderful places where families enjoy a variety of art. At the Grace, one floor also houses historic scenes depicting life over decades. And a children's area allows the entire family to enjoy this culturally rich environment. While the artist displays vary, the children's area remains static. With an oversized Operation game and a musical wall, everyone can have fun interacting together.

Live theater is also big in Abilene, some of it designed around the tastes of younger audiences. The perfect way to introduce children to ballet, live performances and old movie hits can be found in the city while adults can also appreciate events offered for them.

The historic Paramount Theatre is only one venue in Abilene. The fully restored 1930's theater still has a ceiling decorated with stars. During the early years, the stage and curtains allowed live performances and the giant screens welcomed in movies. For a time, the

theater changed to the hotspot for new movie releases. Today, they provide space for live theater, speakers and performances, as well as showing family films and classic movies. The building alone is an adventure that takes you back to a simpler time in history.

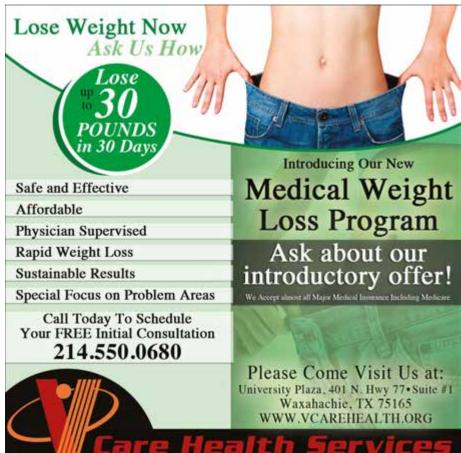
And Abilene has lots of history. The former T&P Train Depot now houses the Abilene Convention and Visitors Bureau. Part of the Texas fort trails, you can visit old Fort Phantom and Buffalo Gap Historic Village. For an extra treat, take in Frontier Texas where modern technology meets yesteryear and holographic figures help make history real. Learn about Texas in a unique way not soon forgotten.

On the wild side, the Abilene Zoo has 16 acres housing more than 1,000 animals, representing 250 species. Located at Nelson Park, there is also a splash area for warmer months and a park resembling a historic fort for fun beyond the zoo.



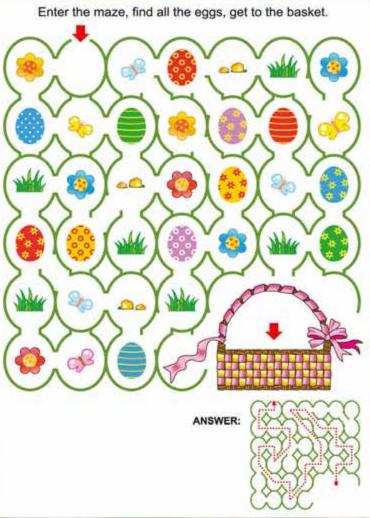
When in Abilene, local eateries and venues offer a great place to host events. The Mill and Soda District are two of many that welcome visitors. But the people of Abilene enjoy sharing the history and modern mix of art, culture and community. Some say the prettiest women live in Abilene. True or not, it's definitely a nearby destination you don't want to miss.

Photos by Lisa Bell.





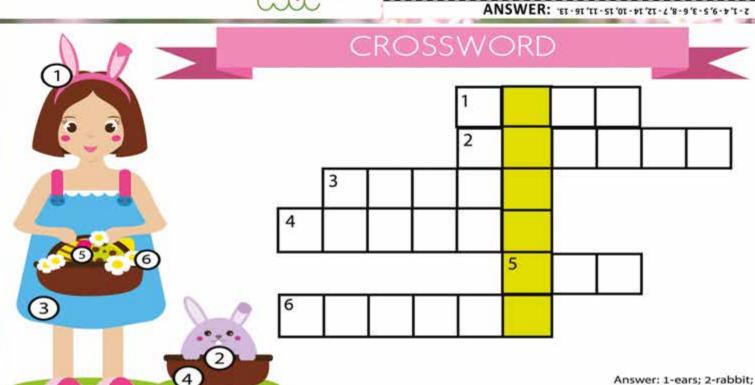
# Kids' Fun Pages

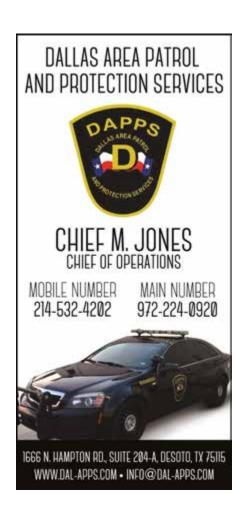




3-dress; 4-basket; 5-egg;

6-flower

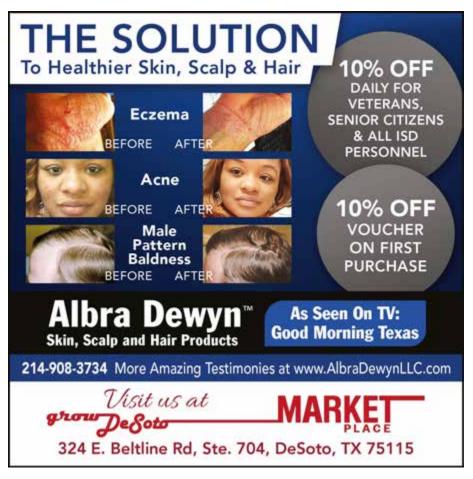




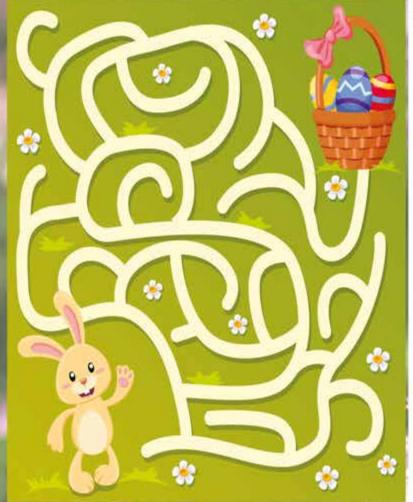




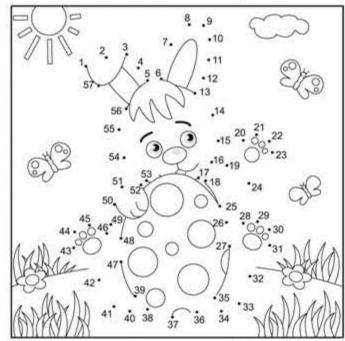




# Kids' Fun Rages



Draw a line from dot number 1 to dot number 2, then from dot number 2 to dot number 3, 3 to 4, and so on. Continue to join the dots until you have connected all the numbered dots. Then color the picture!



ANSWER:



-								
G	K	F	١	0	N	E	R	L
N	U	G	S	0	P	T	X	Z
L	Н	R	E	T	S	A	E	J
R	В	V	N	A	G	P	C	7
P	M	E	L	В	I	R	0	7
S	Р	Н	G	Н	U	N	T	Y
N	Н	В	A	S	K	E	Т	P
В	Q	K	D	0	1	В	M	0
W	0	C	Н	1	C	K	E	N

CHICKEN SPRING HUNT EASTER BUNNY EGG FLOWER BASKET







# **Crossword Puzzle**

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		
9	1	T	T		10	T		$\vdash$	11	12
13	T	t	t		14	T	1	T	$^{+}$	1
15	$\vdash$	$\vdash$		16		T		17	t	+
		18	19	Т	t	+	20		t	t
	21		$\vdash$	t		22	$^{+}$	t	t	
23			T	t	24	Т	$\vdash$	t		
25	1	T		26	T	T		27	28	29
30	T		31		t		32			T
33		$\vdash$	T	$\vdash$		34			1	
		35	+	$\vdash$	+		36		$^{+}$	1

Solutions on page 44

Crosswordsite.com Ltd

### Across

- 1 Mountains
- 5 Set one back
- 9 Inamorato
- 10 Discord
- 13 Barely cooked
- 14 Westernmost Oregon cape
- 15 Alias
- 16 Speak
- 17 At the present time
- 18 Liberal magazine
- 21 Idle Monty Python comic
- 22 Swift
- 23 They'll make a play for you
- 25 Fifth Beatle?
- 26 Rank
- 27 Slugger's stat.
- 30 Muscular
- 32 Mattress feature
- 33 Sewer
- 34 Balladeer --- Seeger
- 35 Flatfish
- 36 Took advantage of

### Down

- 1 Siren in "East of Eden"
- 2 Escaping fluid
- 3 Jumpy guy?
- 4 Johnny Cash's boy
- 5 Type of cigar or sandwich
- 6 Not many
- 7 Mexican Mrs.
- 8 Wear for those who serve
- 11 "Vamoose!"
- 12 Itty-bitty city
- 16 Firmly
- 19 Took cover
- 20 Sailor
- 21 Sgt. Bilko
- 23 Blue matter
- 24 Ciphers
- 28 Religious practice
- 29 Snow vehicle
- 31 Smartphone forerunner
- 32 Chip











# Sudoku Puzzle

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

Medium

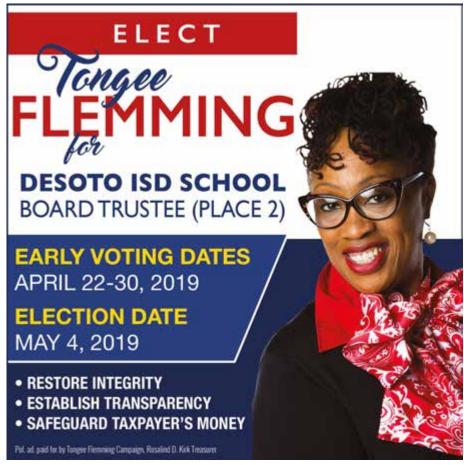
7		4					
	1					5	
8		5			7		3
			2				
4			5		9		
	3						6
3				9	5	4	2
1	2					6	
			1			3	8

Crosswordsite.com Ltd

Solutions on page 44











# Through 4/10

### Free AARP Tax-Aide:

Bring last year's tax return, your Social Security Card and all documents for this year's taxes. First-come-first-served.

Tuesdays: 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Zula B. Wylie Public Library, 225 Cedar St., Cedar Hill, Wednesdays: 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., DeSoto Public Library, 211 E. Pleasant Run Rd.

# 4/4

# Mayor's Prayer Breakfast:

Pray for those who live, work or attend school in Cedar Hill. Free. 7:30-8:30 a.m., 310 E. Parkerville Rd., Cedar Hill.

# 4/5

# All the Colors of the Spectrum Dance Party:

A sensory-friendly dance party to celebrate National Autism Awareness Month hosted by the library. Free. 6:30-8:30 p.m., 211 E. Pleasant Run Rd., DeSoto.

# 4/6

# Spring Girl Scout Kayaking Day:

Learn the basics at Joe Pool Lake. No experience required. \$35. 10:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m., 1570 W. FM 1482, Cedar Hill.

# 4/12

Just the Girls Night Out:

Retail Therapy for the Soul. 6:00-8:00 p.m., Hillside Village, 305 W. FM 1382, Cedar Hill.

# 4/13

### Easter Eggstravaganza:

Fun for children 9 and under. Free, but must pre-register. See the city calendar. 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Zeiger Park, 400 Eagle Dr., DeSoto.

# Taste of Cedar Hill and Business Expo:

Food samplings, local vendors, live music, car show and beer garden. 3:00-10:00 p.m.,
Historic Downtown,
600 Cedar St. Cedar Hill.

# 4/17

# **DeSoto Works! Job Fair:** 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., DC3

9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m., DC3 Church, 900 Polk St., DeSoto.

# 4/20

### **Native Plant Sale:**

Texas plants use less water and shelter wildlife. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Dogwood Canyon Audubon Center, 1206 W. FM 1382, Cedar Hill.

# Miracle Weekend Easter Egg Hunt:

35,000 eggs dropped by helicopter. Free. 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Virginia Weaver Park, 631 Somerset Dr., Cedar Hill.

# 4/22

### **Earth Fest:**

An Earth and Arbor Day Celebration: Environmentally conscious vendors, sustainability tours, tree giveaways. Free. 5:00-7:00 p.m., Cedar Hill Government Center, 285 Uptown Blvd.

# 4/26

# **Gospel Live:**

Hear Chadney Christie, E.J. Field Jr. and Reggie Strong in concert. Free. 7:00-9:00 p.m., Corner Theatre, 211 E. Pleasant Run Rd., DeSoto.

# 4/27

# Briarwood Fishing Tournament for Kids:

The pond will be generously stocked to increase odds. \$5. 9:00 a.m.-noon. Briarwood Park, 1625 W. Belt Line Rd., DeSoto.

# Household Hazardous Waste Event:

Residential waste only; no commercial waste or electronics. Proof of DeSoto residence and city voucher required. 9:00 a.m.-noon. DeSoto Pump Station, 620 N. Westmoreland Rd., DeSoto.

# Impact Communities "Take it to the Box":

On the DEA's Take it Back Day find out where to safely dispose of your old medications. 10:00

a.m.-2:00 p.m. For details, visit www.therxdropbox.com.

# Everything Teen Mega Event:

Enjoy workshops, live entertainment, a fashion show and more. Free. 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., DeSoto Public Library, Civic Center, Outdoor Amphitheater and Plaza, 211 E. Pleasant Run Rd., DeSoto.

# International Potluck Dinner:

Celebrate the culture of Israel. Food live music and dancing. 7:00 p.m., Museum of International Cultures, 411 Hwy. 67 Duncanville.

# 4/27-4/28

# Flag Football X Spring Fling:

Come enjoy the tournament. All day, Valley Ridge Park, 2850 Park Ridge Dr., Cedar Hill.

# 4/30-5/1

# Semi-annual Student Pottery Sale:

Free admission. 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m., Cedar Valley College, 3030 N. Dallas Ave., Lancaster.

# Fourth Mondays

### **Living With Diabetes:**

Learn life skills suggested in living with diabetes. 6:00 p.m., Zula B. Wylie Public Library, Cedar Hill.



# 4/6

## Easter B'egg Hunt:

Easter fun for dogs. Free. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Virginia Weaver Park, 631 Somerset Dr., Cedar Hill.

# **Tuesdays**

# **DeSoto Senior Center Golden Voices Choir:**

9:00 a.m., Senior Citizen Center, 204 Lion St., DeSoto. For more information, call (972) 230-5825.

### **Duncanville Rotary Club:**

7:00-8:00 a.m., D.L. Hopkins Jr. Center, 206 James Collins Blvd., located across from Duncanville Public Library.

# Second Tuesdays

# Methodist Charlton Hospital Auxiliary:

Support the hospital. 12:30 p.m.,

Methodist Charlton Medical Center Auditorium, 3500 W. Wheatland Rd., Dallas. (Doesn't meet June-August)

# **Thursdays**

### **Hats and Hugs:**

Knit, crochet and loom hats to donate to various causes. 10:00 a.m.-noon, DeSoto Public Library. Call Precious Davis, (972) 898-7919.

### The Quilters:

New quilters are welcome. If you or someone you know has a quilt top they would like hand quilted, call (972) 230-966l. 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., DeSoto Public Library.

# First and Third Thursdays

# The Hang Out:

Teens 13-18. Hang out and explore technology. 4:30 p.m., Zula B. Wylie Library, 225 Cedar St., Cedar Hill.

# Second Thursdays

### **Business on the Hill:**

Networking and meeting new neighbors. 7:30 a.m., Texas Trust Credit Union, 109 W. FM 1382, Cedar Hill.

# Third Fridays

**Senior Dances:** 

Cost \$5. 7:00-9:30 p.m., Hopkins Senior Center, 206 James Collins, Duncanville. For more information, call (972) 298-0667.

# Third Saturdays

### Duncan Switch Saturday Street Market:

The event includes vendors, food and fun. 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Main and Center streets, Duncanville.

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







# Crossword Sudoku Solutions

1 A	L	<sup>3</sup> P	4s		<sup>5</sup> C	60	S	вΤ		
<sup>9</sup> B	E	Α	U		10 U	N	R	Е	"S	12 <sub>T</sub>
<sup>13</sup> R	Α	R	Е		14B	L	A	N	С	0
15 A	K	Α		16 S	Α	Y		17N	0	W
		18 T	19 H	E	N	Α	<sup>20</sup> T	1	0	N
	21 E	R	1	С		<sup>22</sup> F	Α	S	Т	
<sup>23</sup> P	R	0	D	U	24 C	E	R	S		
250	N	0		26 R	0	W		27 H	26 R	<sup>29</sup> S
30 R	1	Р	<sup>31</sup> P	Е	D		32C	0	1	L
33 N	Е	E	D	L	E		34 <sub>P</sub>	Е	Т	Е
		35 R	Α	Y	S		36 U	S	Е	D

### Easy

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

### Medium

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



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