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M A G A Z I N E

OCTOBER 2019



Uniquely Positioned

Local scenery is plain
air painter Mike Oates'
favorite subject

In the Kitchen With
Jo Saunders

Fixing a Problem

John Thomas and
the Joseph Thomas
Foundation assist
medically fragile
children

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ON THE COVER

A Harley and open spaces provide the best environment for painter Mike Oates.

Photo by
Kenzie Axtell.

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EDITOR'S NOTE



Lisa

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When does the autumn of life begin?

I suppose different people have varying ideas about aging. Along with many others, I'm reflecting on getting older. Birthdays tend to do that to you. Am I alone in this, or do any of you look in a mirror (more glance than stare) and wonder how on earth your mom stares back at you? Or how those extra pounds sneaked right up and planted themselves around your middle? Maybe you take a few more minutes to study wrinkles and gray hair, or to make sure to cover them well.

Some say age is mind over matter — it doesn't matter if you don't mind. I agree. What difference does it make? Do the number of years count for more than what I did with them? And that's the real question for me. My life looks quite different from what I anticipated years ago, but in many ways, it's actually better. As I grow older, I care less about what others think, although I realize the importance of modeling a life well-lived. I want to influence people to have passion for life and reach their full potential. We're all created for a specific purpose, and when we discover the reason we exist, we get the joy of walking it out.

In reality, seasons of life come and go. Just as we see summer melt into fall, we transform into new things during various periods in our lives. The question is, do I dread the changes or embrace them?

Have a wonderful October!



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At the Kimbell Art Museum's recent exhibit on French impressionist Claude Monet, Weatherford artist Mike Oates just couldn't help himself. He asked the docent, "Which one of these are we allowed to touch?" At 65, this Lubbock native has earned the right to tell jokes as they pop into his head. But truth be told, he's joked all his life.

His family knows him as a happy, well-adjusted father and husband who cuts up every chance he gets. Strangers riding behind his mobile art studio, otherwise disguised as a Harley Davidson towing a miniature trailer, are informed by his bumper sticker that Mike is a free thinker. That's not a joke.

"I'm not confined in my analysis of any one topic," he said. "I think we should all keep an open mind, assess things as we encounter them and live life in a flow of experience."

Hence his mobile art studio. "I decided what should be in it is just the minimum: easel, paints, solvents and a place to carry the finished paintings or the paintings that are in progress," said Mike, who is a plein air painter with the mind of an engineer. Wherever he is, he's uniquely positioned to evoke light, color and emotion from a canvas, while sitting on his motorcycle.

He primarily paints scenes from the Weatherford area, and the results range from well-known buildings to scenes in nature and everything in between. When it's time to stop painting, a rectangular drying rack made of pale birch wood protects up to four wet canvases. A few canvas pouches stash a multitude of brushes underneath his wooden painter's palette. Mike's collapsible antique easel is stored atop it all. If the rain hits in the middle of a painting session, Mike can close up his "studio" in less than five minutes.

That happened recently during a biker rally in Austin. In order to make a nighttime painting, he parked on South Congress, south of the river, just before dark. "You've got beautiful views of the city skyline and the capitol dome. A thunderstorm was building right behind it. As day transitioned to night, it gave a luminescent view of the skyline," Mike said. "I got about three-quarters of the way through that painting when a cloud burst, and I had to run for cover."

Taking the plein air version back home to Weatherford, Mike made use of his recently acquired studio in an old metal shed on South Main. "Sometimes I can't help myself,

Uniquely Positioned

— By Melissa Rawlins





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and I want to come back and fool with it some more,” he said. “This time, when I got stopped by the rain, I had to come back and think, *Can I remember where all those cars were in the foreground?*”

Equally skilled in landscapes and buildings, the plein air painter Mike does is inspired by Monet and Renoir. “I use a limited color palette similar to the impressionists,” he said. In his paintings of downtown Weatherford, a peachy pastel reflects off the sidewalks, representing vibrant sunshine. His painting of Penitentiary Hollow reveals structure provided by rocks in Mineral Wells State Park. Holland Lake, as painted by Mike, delivers a coolness through greens, whites, silvers, browns, yellows — with all the darks and bright lights.

Having taken his motorcycles from Galveston to the Grand Canyon, throughout Utah and Colorado, Mike feels our local scenery can’t be beat. “We have some of the most beautiful areas to paint just right around here,” he said.

“I grew up on a cotton farm as flat as a table. We had the brown or the blue, or the green and the blue, depending upon the season,” he said. “When my sisters and I came to visit Dallas, we’d come through Weatherford. I fell in love with this town as a kid, because it felt like a mountainous, wooded area.”

While painting as a child, Mike wanted to be an artist when he grew up. Texas Tech University was not, however, the right art school for him. “They had totally different ideas and were wanting to bring me along so slowly,” he recalled. “I got cold feet about making a living as an artist, so I switched to electrical engineering. I got my degree in that and worked in that world for a while.”





On his own, he's experimented with oils, watercolors and acrylics and found his favorite medium for controlling the warms and the cools is oils. "Another good thing about oils is they're not perishable," Mike said. "You can carry them around and get them hot or cold, and they behave the same way."

Since 2014, Mike's produced art full time. "The freedom of being able to define your own path, instead of trying to work with other customers or engineers, has been wonderful," he said. "I appreciate being able to just travel light to Austin." A morning person anyway, the first thing on Mike's mind is what he can do for art each day.

When painting, Mike's not thinking about what other people will think. He's meditating and finding a view where the composition is balanced, and where some asymmetry provides a bit of drama. "There's also the familiarity of a building that will touch somebody else in their emotions," he said. "I may look at it from an artist's perspective, but somebody else might look at it as their childhood anchor."

Mike painted the old auction building at the Stockyards recently, as well as the Parker County courthouse and the stone churches throughout the county. "The architecture that is left from our past is just gorgeous," he said. "It's a shame they tore down the old Weatherford College building, but I was a 5-year-old kid when I saw it last."

A landmark to our west caught his attention a few years ago. Mike painted the Baker Hotel in Mineral Wells from a precipice about 100 feet higher than the soon-to-be renovated structure. While he painted, he was joined by hundreds of buzzards, which were used to roosting there. They ignored him, and he them. **NOW**



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FIXING A PROBLEM

— By Lisa Bell

In the wake of pain from losing his son, Joseph, in 2007, John Thomas' heart also hurt for other children with medical issues. "My original intent was to help children," he admitted, "but also my wife." As Erin grieved over their child's death, John wanted to give her something to do. Looking for an outlet, they decided, "We understand those kids. Let's try to help them."

John explained that most people assume Medicaid or insurance covers everything a medically fragile child needs, but simple items, like money for food or gas, aren't always provided. Even when covered, reimbursements may arrive long after the expense. "We found a problem, and we're trying to fix it," John said.

Originally, John intended to raise a few thousand dollars a year and spend it, helping a few kids along the way. "We had no money," John admitted. So, he suggested fundraisers. Ten



times Erin said, “No,” because none of his suggestions included the kids they wanted to help.

During that time, John and his family lived in Abilene, and while driving around, he saw PrimeTime Family Entertainment and had an idea. After she stopped laughing, Erin asked, “How are the kids gonna participate?”

John offered a simple solution. “A triathlon — with bowling, Skee-Ball and miniature golf.” Any child could participate in those three activities with minimal assistance. They could get sponsors to underwrite the event and allow the kids to participate at no charge. Not only would the event raise funds, but it also provided a day of normalcy. The first event on February 13, Joseph’s birthday, was a huge success. Any child’s family within a 100-mile radius from Abilene could apply for assistance from the foundation.

When his wife passed away in 2010 due to heart issues, John wanted to end the foundation. With a 10-year-old daughter and full-time job, life seemed overwhelming. But his family



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encouraged him to continue and stepped up to help. "I honestly expected this to last five years, maximum," John confided. "Now 13 years later, it's a fun event more than a fundraiser." A faith-based foundation, John said, "We'll keep it open until God tells me to shut it down."

Two years later, he married Becca, who had two children, Philip and Alani. "Becca takes the foundation personally," he said. "She sits on the board and helps with fundraising events."

Two years later, baby Aria arrived. Eventually, John's 15-year-old autistic nephew, Nathan, came to live with them, rounding out the family of seven. They moved to Weatherford four years ago to live near Cooks Hospital and decided to expand the foundation, quickly finding partners in the community. Because they already helped children in the area, people knew them. Collaborating with Film Alley and other local businesses, they formed a biathlon event in November including bowling and Skee-Ball. The third annual event this year occurs on November 9.

John serves as president of the nine-member Board of Directors. They make decisions as a group with a common goal. "We try to make sure these kids have what they need," he said. The board can't always approve an application, but then individuals sometimes meet those needs. Each application, vetted on face value, ranges widely in the request and amount.

From \$100 to cover gas, all the way up to \$9,500, most of the applications fall in the \$1,500 to \$2,000 range. John recalled one request for an activity chair that allows kids to participate in more



events. The family received a denial because “their child was terminal.” John admits, seeing those words made him angry. “We’re all terminal,” he said. The foundation board approved the funds within hours. When the child passed away six months later, the parents donated the chair back to the foundation. It currently aids another child.

The foundation doesn’t pay medical bills but assists with supplies, services and related expenses. “The only limitation Joseph Foundation has is money,” John said. He doesn’t draw a salary, and they have only one employee — a part-time assistant — so donations directly support the children.

John admits his mom and dad are why dwarfism doesn’t limit him. They chose to put him in the real world. “At 4 feet, you don’t play basketball,” he said. But the high school coach let him help. Still wanting to compete, John’s mom introduced him to alternatives. He went on to win gold medals. Although at times he has wanted to give up, John said, “It all comes back to family and God. I think He has a higher purpose.” The Joseph Thomas Foundation fulfills that purpose through helping remove limitations for many families. **NOW**

Editor’s Note: For more information, visit www.JosephThomasFoundation.org.

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Better Health Market

— By Lisa Bell

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For more than 35 years, people throughout the area visited Better Health Market. For three months, the shop closed its doors, but on June 17, 2019, Kathleen Campbell reopened as the new owner and is ecstatic about offering Weatherford and the surrounding area quality natural products at reasonable prices.

When her husband's job brought them to Fort Worth 16 years ago, they wanted to live in a smaller town and chose Weatherford. For many years, Kathleen owned different types

of businesses. Because of her involvement with local chambers of commerce, many people in town know her well. "I believe the Lord led me to it [the health store]," she said. "He always takes you on a journey to teach you what you need to know before allowing you to have your dream job."

Kathleen was one of the first to sell CBD in the area because of the way it benefited her health. Now, she takes pride in offering only full-spectrum CBD for quality and safety. With the public's growing interest, she's able to share her personal experience. But that isn't all Better Health Market sells. As Weatherford's only full health store, they carry a line of healthy foods, all types of vitamins and supplements, essential oils, natural skin products, pet supplies and more. From general nutritional aids to weight-loss and specialized needs, they carry a wide variety of options. "What you put in and on your body matters," Kathleen stated.

The new owner is very thankful for her two employees who stayed when the previous owner sold the business. Rosalind Lamb continues as manager — a position she's held for the last 17 years.

Susan Freeman started at Better Health Market three years ago and came from a nursing background. "We're here to help people maintain or improve their health," Kathleen shared. "I look at this business as my ministry, and it was a definite leap of faith when I took it on. I consider this the Lord's shop."

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The collective knowledge from these three women provides something not typically found at general stores, and they offer many product selections. Without driving into the Metroplex, people in the community can find most anything they need. However, if Better Health Market doesn't carry a product, they will special order that item, if available.

Entering the store, customers find comfortable places to sit among plants, soft music and delicate scents. At the back of the store, Kathleen transformed one area into a complimentary coffee bar with a place for customers to sit and relax. Janie Davis hand-painted the back wall, which features Kathleen's favorite life verse, "Delight yourself in the Lord; and He will give you the desires of your heart" (Psalm 37:4 NASB). The staff wants customers to feel welcome and enjoy the environment in the store.

On the other side of the building, Kathleen rented space to two natural health consultants and hopes to rent out rooms to other health-related services to create a one-stop-shop setting. This local health food store also offers monthly seminars and workshops covering a variety of health topics. Welcome to the new Better Health Market. **NOW**

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Hope Humphries smiles big after losing 65 pounds in a year.

Zoomed In: Katherine and Micah Parker

By Lisa Bell

During the waning days of summer, Katherine Parker and her son, Micah, enjoy time at the park, where he's always on the lookout for airplanes. "He's a typical 2-year-old boy," Katherine said. "He loves trucks, tractors and airplanes."

Micah also adores getting as close to the ducks as possible. They love living in Weatherford, and Katherine hopes one day her parents will move here from the East Coast. "They almost bought a house here," she admitted. In the meantime, she and Micah enjoy peaceful days at the park, loving nature in the shade.



Shayleigh and Ryder Randle pose for a first day of school photo.



A groundbreaking is held for the new Marriott in Willow Park.



Weatherford Roo cheerleaders spread a little joy.



Rick Mauch's granddaughters, Gracie and Zoe, hang out in the summer sun.



Leon Payne and Friends rock some old country on the Flames patio.



Construction crews work diligently to finish the new location for Center of Hope.



Carole Malugani loves the new wall murals at Weatherford Whiskers.

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CookingNOW

In the Kitchen With

JO SAUNDERS

— By Lisa Bell



Jo Saunders admitted she didn't learn how to cook until getting married. "Thank goodness for Hamburger Helper," she said. "To this day, my husband can't even look at a box of it." By watching his stepmom, Jo learned to cook. She watches cooking shows and transforms the recipes into her own, preferring one-pot dishes — especially those from Virginia or England.

While Jo enjoys cooking for her husband, she also randomly takes a meal to neighbors. Once a month, she treats the Weatherford Police Department night shift, which often misses donated goodies. "Baking is my ultimate favorite," she admitted. Her creativity shines through amazing cakes that look like pizza, chili or a tree stump with flowers, but taste like cake. Whenever Jo enters a contest, she usually wins. **NOW**

Hominy Casserole

2 poblano chilies, roasted and peeled
1/2 medium yellow onion, diced
1 tsp. vegetable oil
1/2 tsp. cumin
1/4 tsp. cayenne pepper
2 jalapeño peppers, roasted, seeded and peeled
2 tsp. lime juice
1/2 cup fresh cilantro

2 15-oz. cans hominy, drained
4 oz. sour cream
1 1/2 cups cheddar cheese (divided use)
Salt, to taste
Pepper, to taste

1. Dice poblanos. Cook onions in oil, just until translucent; remove from heat.
2. Place in an ovenproof pan. Add cumin, cayenne, peppers, lime juice and cilantro; mix well.

3. Add hominy and sour cream; mix well. Add 1/2 of the cheese. Salt and pepper to taste. Top with remaining cheese.
4. Bake at 350 F for 20 minutes.

Easy Italian Chicken

Boned and skinned chicken breasts
8 oz. sour cream
Milk, to thin sour cream
Italian breadcrumbs, enough to coat chicken
Oil for frying

1. Pound chicken until approximately 1/3-inch thick. Coat both sides with sour cream that has been slightly thinned with milk.
2. Dip both sides into breadcrumbs. Fry until golden brown.

Longhorns

For dough:
4 cups flour
1 tsp. salt

- 1 pkg. yeast
- 2 1/2 sticks butter
- 3 egg yolks, beaten
- 1/2 cups sour cream
- 1 tsp. vanilla

For filling:

- 3 egg whites, beaten stiff
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup pecans, finely chopped
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- Powdered sugar, for dusting

1. For dough: Sift flour. Add salt and yeast; cut in butter.
2. Add egg yolks, sour cream and vanilla; combine until mixture forms a smooth dough. Place in plastic wrap; chill.
3. For filling: Combine all ingredients, except powdered sugar.
4. On a board dusted with powdered sugar, divide dough into 8 pieces. Roll into rounds. Spread with filling.
5. Cut into wedges; roll up each wedge starting at the wide edge. Bake at 350 F for 15-18 minutes, until lightly browned.
6. When cool, sprinkle with powdered sugar.

Grandma Lee's Coconut Cake

This is an extremely moist cake.

For cake:

- 1 box Duncan Hines yellow butter cake mix (Do not substitute.)

For icing:

- 2 6-oz. pkgs. frozen coconut (If frozen is unavailable, use Baker's Sweetened Coconut.)
- 8 oz. sour cream
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 tsp. vanilla

1. For cake: Prepare cake per directions on the box. Bake in two round cake pans. Slice each layer in half, or cook in four pans.
2. For icing: Reserve 1/2 bag of the frozen coconut. Mix together all ingredients, except the reserved coconut. Let stand, covered, in the refrigerator overnight.
3. Ice the cake. Put the reserved coconut on the sides and top of the cake. Store in the refrigerator.

Chicken Poppers

Johnnie's favorite.

White or dark chicken, cut into

- 1 1/2-inch pieces
- 1 slice jalapeño for each chicken piece
- 1 thin slice bacon for each chicken piece

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1. Put 1 slice of jalapeño with each chicken bite. Wrap with a thin slice of bacon; hold together with a toothpick.
2. Bake at 375 F for 20-25 minutes; serve hot.

Virginia Cream Cheese Biscuits

- 1 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 tsp. salt
- 1/2 cup butter
- 3 oz. cream cheese

1. Preheat oven to 425 F
2. Sift together flour and salt. Add butter in small pieces. Add cream cheese, and mix until dough sticks together.
3. Turn dough onto floured surface, roll to a thickness of 1/2 inch. Use a round 2-inch biscuit or cookie cutter.
4. Place on a lightly buttered baking sheet; bake until pale brown, approximately 20 minutes. Serve warm.

Maggie's Chocolate Chess Pie

- 1 3/4 cups sugar
- 1/3 cup HERSHEY'S cocoa
- 1/4 cup melted butter
- 4 eggs, beaten



Grandma Lee's Coconut Cake

- 1 1/4 cups evaporated milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 2 pie shells

1. Combine sugar, cocoa and butter; mix well. Add eggs, milk and vanilla; mix well.
2. Pour equal amounts into each pie shell.
3. Bake at 350 F for 45-60 minutes, until the center of the pie is set.

Special Ham Rolls

- 1 pkg. Hawaiian rolls
- 1 lb. ham, sliced very thin (Use neutral ham or off-the-bone ham; do not use honey ham or any type with seasoning.)
- 1 lb. pkg. Swiss cheese, sliced

- 1 stick butter, melted
- 2 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 1 tsp. garlic powder
- 1 tsp. onion powder
- 1 tsp. poppy seeds (optional)

1. Slice rolls in half. Put ham and cheese on bottom of rolls. Replace tops; set aside.
2. Mix butter, Worcestershire sauce, garlic powder and onion powder.
3. Place sandwiches tightly together in a baking pan. Spread butter mixture on top of rolls.
4. Top with poppy seeds, if using. Cover; store in the refrigerator overnight. Bake at 375 F for 15 minutes. Do not let them get brown. Best when served hot.

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— By *John T. Taylor*

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Tucked into the northeast corner of Texas, you'll find Jefferson, one of Texas' oldest and most historic cities. A charming destination for families, or a romantic weekend getaway for couples, you'll find myriad entertainment choices all year. With its 20-plus award-winning B&B's, top-ranked restaurants and exciting festivals, Jefferson is a must-see destination, and one to which you will want to return. Its

location east of the Dallas-Ft. Worth area and north of Houston makes it easily accessible by major highways.

Founded in the 1840s on Big Cypress Bayou, Jefferson was once the largest inland river port in Texas. Steamships plied this river to New Orleans by way of the Red and Mississippi Rivers and brought a level of prosperity not seen by other cities in this region. This is still reflected today by the presence of nearly 100 entirely restored homes built in the 19th century, many of them open for tours. Surrounded by stately magnolias and gardens, they give visitors a glimpse into the grandeur that was Jefferson 150 years ago.

Today, that famed waterway hosts visitors to canoe and kayak past magnificent cypress trees draped with Spanish moss, reminiscent of states farther south and east. If that sounds too much like exercise on your visit, take a narrated riverboat tour with an experienced and entertaining guide and local historian. If you have more time and a passion for water activities, visit nearby Lake O' the Pines, as well as Caddo Lake, a haven for photographers and fishermen. Fully equipped campgrounds are available at both lakes.

Jefferson was designated "The Bed and Breakfast Capital of Texas" by the Texas Legislature, and those establishments

found here are definitely deserving of recognition. From plantation breakfasts in many to charming hosts, you'll experience the graciousness and manners of the South with the friendliness of Texas. If it's a historic hotel you prefer, the Excelsior House Hotel is located downtown and has been in continuous operation since the 1850s.

While the pace is slower here, you'll quickly find an attraction to interest almost everyone and a memory waiting to be made. There are museums, galleries and an original restored Carnegie Library. For model railroad enthusiasts of all ages, the R.D. Moses Model Railroad is located in the Depot directly behind the Jefferson Historical Museum. Train rides, soda fountains, a petting zoo with exotic animals, shops and boutiques, informative horse-drawn carriage rides and coach tours on brick streets await your exploration and are in operation year-round. To fuel all that activity, you'll find Jefferson has everything from unique sandwiches, award-winning barbecue, burgers and fudge to bistros, wine, coffee bars and fine dining establishments. If you still have the energy, you will find ghost tours available on weekends with fascinating stories of hauntings, past and present.

Festivals abound all year with a candlelight Christmas season, an old-fashioned Fourth of July celebration and a pilgrimage of homes. Add to that Mardi Gras, motorcycle rallies and car shows, Bigfoot sightings, history symposiums and Girlfriend Weekend book festivals, and you might have to stop to catch your breath. But, if you're just looking to get away from the crowds for a weekend, Jefferson offers that, too. And that feeling of relaxation and contentment you'll carry home with you comes free of charge. **NOW**

Editor's Note: Contact Tourism for more information at (903) 665-3733 or visit www.visitjeffersonontexas.com.

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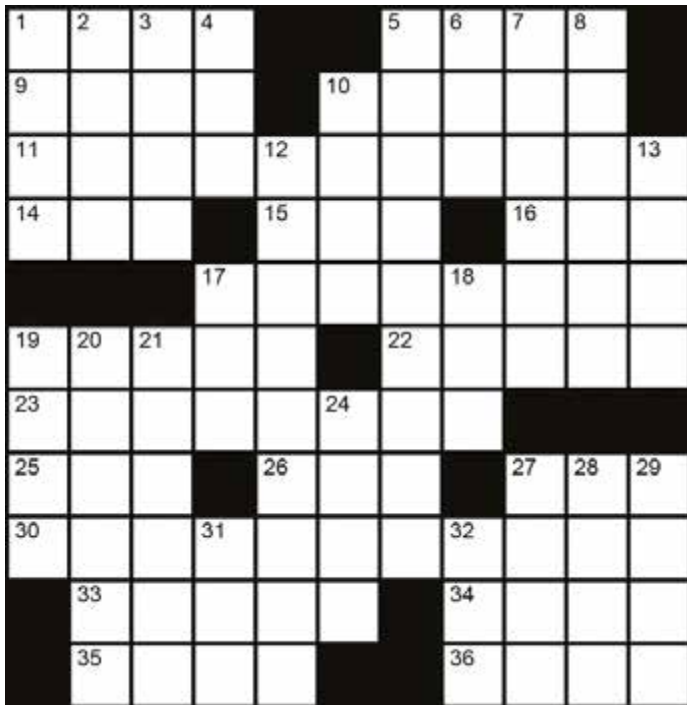
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- 9 Former Soviet ruler --- Andropov
- 10 Acute
- 11 Watch
- 14 When one is supposed to get there
- 15 Metal container
- 16 Period of history
- 17 Judicial restraint
- 19 Variable
- 22 Old-fashioned
- 23 Hung around
- 25 First of her kind
- 26 The whole race, or a member of half of it
- 27 Put down in the street
- 30 Journey's end
- 33 Yearned
- 34 The power to reject
- 35 Playthings
- 36 Thrust with a knife

Down

- 1 Embankment
- 2 Musical composition for two
- 3 Extent of space
- 4 Pup's cry
- 5 Remarkable events
- 6 Reef
- 7 Cattle classifications
- 8 Puffball emissions
- 10 Obstacle
- 12 Scholarly centers
- 13 Not any
- 17 Light rowboat
- 18 Slender bar
- 19 Ran away
- 20 Occupy
- 21 Worldwide cultural org.
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- 27 Tokyo legislature
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- 31 Your, old style
- 32 Domestic channels for news, education, entertainment and rubbish

Solutions on page 44

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Sudoku Puzzle

Easy

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

Medium

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

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Solutions on page 44

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very
unhealthy

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unhealthy

Active children and adults, and people with lung disease such as asthma, should avoid prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors. Everyone else, especially children, should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.

unhealthy for
sensitive groups

Active children and adults, and people with lung disease such as asthma, should reduce prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.

moderate

Unusually sensitive people should consider reducing prolonged or heavy exertion outdoors.

good

None



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Fall is Here

October

10/2

Texas Women:

Doss University with Jon Vandagriff five-week fall course begins. \$30 (\$20 Doss partners and students). 5:30 p.m. For registration, visit www.dosscenter.org.

10/5

Pioneer Heritage Festival:

Community event, with period costumes, artisans, petting zoos, reenactments and more. Free. 10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Doss Heritage and Cultural Center, 1400 Texas Drive. www.dosscenter.org or (817) 599-6168.

10/10-10/11

Introduction to Paint Pouring:

Adult class. Learn a less messy, cost-effective and less wasteful process. Free but must register online. **Thursday:** 6:00-8:00 p.m. or **Friday:** 1:00-3:00 p.m., Weatherford Public Library, 1014 Charles. www.weatherfordpubliclibrarytx.eventbrite.com.

10/12

Vettes on the Square:

Brazos River Corvette Club's 14th annual car show features Corvettes from the '50s forward. Silent and live auctions plus 50/50 raffle benefits People Helping People. Free admission.

8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Historic Town Square, Granbury. For more information, visit www.brazosrivercc.com.

Fall Festival:

Children's area, silent and live auctions, street vendors. 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., First United Methodist, 301 S. Main. For more details, call (817) 599-4231 or www.fumcw.org.

A Night in Venice Masked Ball:

Chandor Gardens Foundation invites you to an evening of 19th century intrigue and elegance. Music, catered food, dancing, cash bar and raffles. Evening attire, masks encouraged. \$100/person. 7:00-11:00 p.m., Chandor Gardens, 711 W. Lee Ave. www.chandorgardensfoundation.org.

10/17

Scenic Weatherford:

An exhibition of paintings by Mike Oates. 7:00-10:00 p.m., Full Cup Coffee and Bistro, 922 S. Main. For more information, call (682) 803-1453.

10/18-11/3

The Sunshine Boys:

Enjoy live theater. **Friday** and **Saturday:** 8:00 p.m.; **Sunday:** 2:00 p.m., Theatre Off The Square, 114 N. Denton St. (817) 341-8687 or www.theatreoffthesquare.org.

10/19

Harvest Festival:

Kids fun area, silent and live auctions, bake shop and homemade items. Meal: \$10 pre-sale; \$15 at the door, includes sausage, pulled pork, beans, coleslaw, roll, dessert and drink. 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m., Couts United Methodist Church, 802 N. Elm St. www.coutsmethodistchurch.com.

W.O.W. Sovereigns:

Though Silent, They Speak Talking Tombstone Tour. Docent-guided tours begin every 15 minutes and last 70 minutes. 1:00-3:00 p.m., Old City Greenwood Cemetery, 300 Front St. www.parkercountyheritagesociety.com.

Aledo Fest:

This year's event features live music, food, craft vendors and activities for kids of all ages. Family-friendly costume contest. 1:00-5:00 p.m., Aledo High School front parking lots. www.aledo-texas.com under community events.

10/20

Autumn Art Walk:

Usher in the fall season as area artists around the gardens demonstrate and sell a wide variety of unique handmade artwork. \$1/person. Noon-4:00 p.m., Chandor Gardens, 711 W. Lee Ave. www.ci.weatherford.tx.us/1171/Garden-Happenings or (817) 613-1700.

10/22

Dinner Tonight:

Healthy cooking school hosted by Texas AgriLife Extension. Programs for adults and youth. \$20-adults. Children and youth-free. 6:30 p.m., Couts United Methodist Church, 802 N. Elm St. Information and registration, (817) 598-6168.

10/26

Texas Country Reporter Festival:

Join Kelli and Bob Phillips, hosts of the weekly TV show, *Texas Country Reporter*, for this 24th annual, one-day arts and music festival. More than 250 booths featuring artists, craftspeople, food, live entertainment and some of the people who have been featured on the TV show over the years. Free admission. 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.; "unplugged" performance by country legend John Anderson: 6:00 p.m., historic courthouse square, downtown Waxahachie. www.waxahachiecvb.com.

Third Tuesdays

Parker County Cruisers:

The group for those interested in classic cars and specialty vehicles. 6:30 p.m., Mount Pleasant School, 213 Raymond George Way. (817) 994-0074.

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Crossword - Sudoku Solutions

1	D	2	D	3	A	4	Y	5	P	6	C	7	B	8	S			
9	Y	U	R	I	10	S	H	A	R	P								
11	K	E	E	P	12	A	N	E	Y	E	O	13	N					
14	E	T	A	15	C	A	N	16	E	R	A							
				17	G	A	G	O	R	D	E	R						
19	F	L	U	I	D	22	M	O	S	S	Y							
23	L	I	N	G	E	R	E	D										
25	E	V	E	26	M	A	N	27	D	I	S							
30	D	E	S	T	I	N	A	T	I	O	N							
				33	A	C	H	E	D	34	V	E	T	O				
				35	T	O	Y	S						36	S	T	A	B

Easy

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

Medium

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

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