

# MidlothianNOW

M A G A Z I N E

OCTOBER 2020

## Officer America

Christopher  
Douglas is a hero  
without a cape

## Hoofing Through History

The Texas Longhorn  
is a living symbol of  
the Old West

In the Kitchen With  
Brandy Cambron

Also inside:  
Scavenger Hunt

Kids' Fun Page

Crossword/Sudoku

Featured Business:  
Ovilla Family Dentistry



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## **ON THE COVER**

*Officer Christopher Douglas appreciates the support the Midlothian community gives its first responders.*

**Photo by**  
Kobbi R. Blair.

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

*Let's rejoice!*

My five-year plan is to make it through this year. It seems it's taken about that long just to get to the last quarter of 2020, but — insert praise hands — we're finally here. Never more than before has being a Pollyanna served me well, and I feel sorry for the pessimists of the world right about now.

For anyone unfamiliar with Pollyanna, the character derives from a 1913 children's novel written by Eleanor H. Porter. The orphaned girl goes to live with a less-than-welcoming aunt in a town where she encounters some negative characters. Thanks to the "glad game" — a practice of seeing the good in every situation — Pollyanna helps the entire town begin to look on the bright side. Today, calling someone a Pollyanna is often meant as criticism, suggesting they are overly optimistic or cheerful. The purpose of the glad game, however, was to help one cope with life's inevitable difficulties — a way to find light in the darkest times.

If you ask me, it's much harder to be an optimist than a pessimist. You must doggedly pursue goodness in a world where bad seems to ooze from every corner. Your standards are higher, because your expectations are, too. You're not blind to the negative, but refuse to let clouds erase your awareness of the sun. 2020 has tried me, but it has not defeated me. I can honestly say, the glad game has become a favorite over this oh-so-long year, and my inner Pollyanna has only become stronger. I encourage you to play along today ...

*... and be glad in it!*



*Angel*

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*Growing up in a law enforcement family, Christopher Douglas has a great awareness of what it means to protect and serve. Featured on TV news for stopping traffic simply so an elderly woman could cross the street, he has become a bit of a local celebrity — some might even say a superhero.*

"I love what I do as an officer, and the best part of my day is when I get to interact with the public and help keep a strong bond with them. I've especially always enjoyed interacting with the kiddos and making each other smile and laugh," Officer Douglas explained. "I wanted to do more outside of the uniform and thought maybe I could do hospital visits as a superhero."

Officer Douglas said he took a rare trip to the mall where a Captain America shield caught his eye. "I knew right then and there. I purchased the shield and the outfit soon after. After three years now, I've visited numerous children's hospitals, police community events, Miracle League of Ellis County and the Make-A-Wish Foundation," he outlined.

Born in Lubbock in 1983, Officer Douglas was an "Army brat" who lived in Germany, Alabama, New York and, finally, San Antonio. The oldest of six children, his father has been an officer for 27 years, his mother a detention officer and his stepmom a 24-year officer. His oldest sister is an officer, as well. "I grew up in law enforcement. This profession has been a big part of my life even before I knew it," Officer Douglas relayed.

After graduating high school, Officer Douglas joined the Air Force and went into basic training two weeks after the 9/11 attacks. "During my time in service, I participated in some free college classes through the Community College of the Air Force. I'm currently enrolled at Tarleton State University working to complete my bachelor's degree in criminal justice," he noted.

Officer Douglas' law enforcement career began in 2006, and he has served more than 14 years with more than 6,000 TCOLE training hours. His first 12-and-a-half years were with DeSoto PD. "I was ready for a change. At the time, I didn't know what that was going to be. I was frustrated and wasn't sure I wanted to continue serving," Officer Douglas recalled. "However, God had other plans for me."

Having lived in Midlothian for about five years, Officer Douglas said he'd "seen the amazing amount of support, love and respect the community has for first responders. I knew that this is what I needed to get my spark back. After I made the decision, everything just fell into place so smoothly," he said.

With Midlothian PD, Officer Douglas is a patrol officer, TCOLE instructor and teaches various subjects from Defensive Tactics to Vehicle Close Quarter Combat. "My personal goal as an officer is to show not just my community but anyone anywhere that we are the good guys and gals. Also, to leave a legacy my children will be proud of."

One of Officer Douglas' fondest memories on the force was stopping a porch pirate during the

# OFFICER AMERICA

— By Angel Morris



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holidays. “He’d hit a dozen plus houses, and most of the packages were gifts, including a hand-picked doll for a little girl that was sent from her mother who was deployed and wouldn’t be home for Christmas,” he remembered. “After some diligent police work and great communication with my investigators, I was able to find the suspect and his vehicle that was still loaded with stolen gifts. We were able to give the little girl her doll the day before Christmas.”

Beyond many such good memories, Officer Douglas also acknowledges the job’s difficulties. “All we can do is remember why we do this honorable profession. Go out every shift and treat everyone with dignity, kindness and respect like we wish to be treated. We can’t control everyone’s behavior. If we could there’d be no criminals. Still, we have to keep the faith and continue fighting the good fight.”

Officer Douglas appreciates those who constantly encourage him. “My dad, Dennis, taught me how to be a great officer and man. My stepparents,







Claudia and Frank, have supported and loved me when they didn't have to. Also, my siblings, Anjeliqua, Aunna, Jackie, Dennise and Daniel," Officer Douglas credited. "My amazing wife of 17 years, Suzie, gives such love and guidance. My daughter, Nevaeh, and son, Dean, are the joys in my life, reminding me of the good that still exists in this world."

Last, but not least, Officer Douglas credits his mother, Angelisa, as his biggest supporter and fan. "I've worked lots of part-times and overtimes, plus gotten generous donations, mostly thanks to my awesome mom, which have allowed me to also purchase a Batman suit!" he said. "I wouldn't be where I am today or who I am without my family."

Family time is one of Officer Douglas' biggest joys. "We love being outdoors riding horses, kayaking, hiking, etc. I also enjoy a great cigar and fine whiskey. Yes, you read that correctly. We officers are actually human," he joked.

Whether serving as son or brother, husband or father, police officer or superhero, Officer Douglas said he has learned fundamental lessons. "First and always, I thank God for opportunities to serve in many ways and blessing me with the people to follow. Also, to be thankful for everyone who has not only supported me but all first responders," he reminded. "We all need to continue to do our best to keep our relationships with one another strong. There's far more folks with us than against us." **NOW**



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In late August I announced I would step away from the Midlothian School Board race. My heart hurt, but as I'm sure you've experienced in your own life, difficult times require difficult decisions.

I'd been grappling with the idea of stepping away for quite some time and for good reason. The onset of COVID-19 greatly altered my income and with that, the stability of my home. As the sole provider for my children I have no room for error. I prayed night after night for clarity and above all His grace.

How could I drop out of the school board race with the future of all our children at stake? How could I put the

safety and stability of my own children in peril for any reason? I couldn't sleep.

So on August 23rd I made the announcement on my social media page that I would withdraw from the election. I said that it would take God convicting hearts to see the necessary changes made for Midlothian children. I still couldn't sleep.

My heart had been broken to learn that one of our school board members attended a party years ago in black face and more recently as a maid from *The Help*, also in black face. A student would be expelled, and a teacher or administrator would be terminated for the same infraction.

The community asked her to step down. I asked her to step down. On the day all current school board members asked her to step down... my opponent did not.

My favorite scripture comes from Micah 6:8.

"He has told you, O man, what is good, and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" (NASB)

Even now, more has come to the surface regarding my opponent's behavior and decision-making, emboldened by my dropping out of the race. As so many times before, I heard God's voice in that scripture... to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly.

On August 23rd, when I stated it would take God to convict hearts, I didn't quite realize I was referencing my own heart. Just as God told Joshua to be courageous, I'll do the same; not only for my family, but for all families in Midlothian. So with a humble heart, I ask you to join me in my race for school board. I'm back in the race, and I'm asking for your vote.

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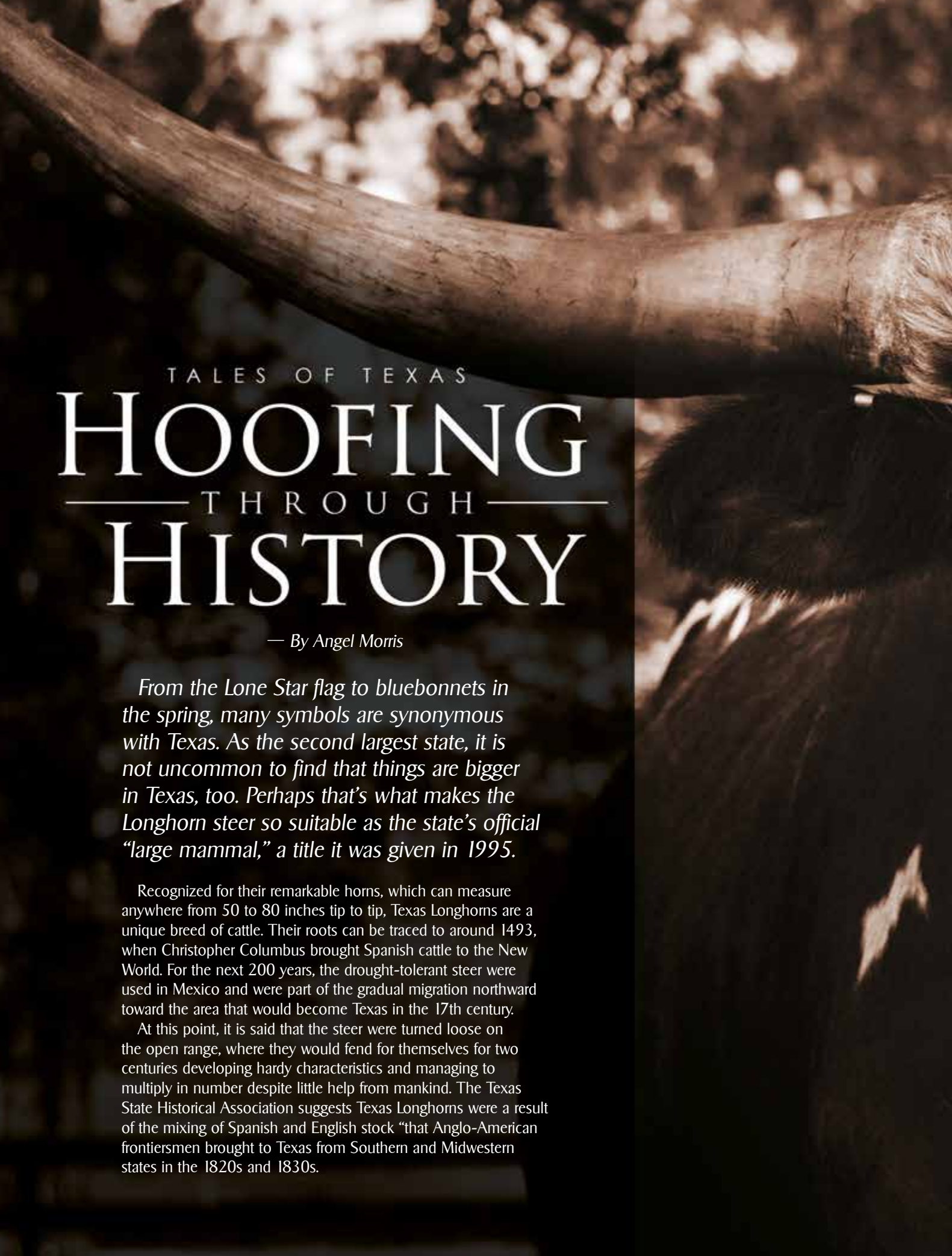


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TALES OF TEXAS

# HOOFING THROUGH HISTORY

— By Angel Morris

*From the Lone Star flag to bluebonnets in the spring, many symbols are synonymous with Texas. As the second largest state, it is not uncommon to find that things are bigger in Texas, too. Perhaps that's what makes the Longhorn steer so suitable as the state's official "large mammal," a title it was given in 1995.*

Recognized for their remarkable horns, which can measure anywhere from 50 to 80 inches tip to tip, Texas Longhorns are a unique breed of cattle. Their roots can be traced to around 1493, when Christopher Columbus brought Spanish cattle to the New World. For the next 200 years, the drought-tolerant steer were used in Mexico and were part of the gradual migration northward toward the area that would become Texas in the 17th century.

At this point, it is said that the steer were turned loose on the open range, where they would fend for themselves for two centuries developing hardy characteristics and managing to multiply in number despite little help from mankind. The Texas State Historical Association suggests Texas Longhorns were a result of the mixing of Spanish and English stock "that Anglo-American frontiersmen brought to Texas from Southern and Midwestern states in the 1820s and 1830s.





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“Spanish and Anglo cattle mixed on a small scale in the 1830s and after, but by the Civil War, the half-wild Texas Longhorns emerged as a recognizable type,” TSHA reports. “Over the next 20 years, contractors drove 5 to 10 million cattle out of Texas, commerce that helped revive the state’s economy. Longhorns, with their long legs and hard hoofs, were ideal trail cattle; they even gained weight on the way to market.”

As frontiers became more densely populated, however, modern ranchers found breeds with an ability to gain weight quickly more desirable than Longhorns and their lean beef. By the 1920s, only a few small Longhorn herds remained.

Decline of Longhorn population led to near extinction, but the breed began to come back in vogue when adopted as the mascot of The University of Texas in 1917. The year prior, a nervous 1,200-pound steer had been introduced on the football field when Texas defeated Texas A&M on Thanksgiving Day 1916. The Longhorn would come to be named Bevo — with a variety of lore attached to his name — and remains one of the most recognizable university mascots to this day.

In 1927, the federal government and the United States Forest Service focused their attention on rebreeding the Longhorn from a small herd. In the early 1930s, more breeders helped Texas form its own herd, keeping the cattle in state parks. Again, the steers’ natural ability to survive led to its revival as beef stock.







The Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America was formed in 1964 by Charles Schreiner III, who had created a herd on his own ranch in the late 1950s in honor of his grandfather's ranching legacy. Charles helped stage cattle drives — complete with cowboys battling “attacks” on the herd — as publicity efforts to bring attention back to the beloved steer.

More than a quarter-million Texas Longhorns were listed within the TLBAA registry by the end of the 1900s. Today, all 50 states, Canada, Mexico and other countries are home to Longhorn breeders, with the steer used for beef stock, as well as kept by local ranchers purely for their ties to Texas history.

Longhorns have also gained popularity in recreational use, in sports such as team cutting, penning and roping. The animals' size, demeanor and trademark horns lend them to use in these activities, plus they maintain resale value beyond their time in recreational sports, making their value two-fold.

Owners of Texas Longhorns who could trace a steer's elite bloodline have reportedly earned \$40,000 or more at 21st century cattle auctions. In fact, the record for Longhorn sales peaked at \$380,000 for a cow and heifer calf during a 2017 auction at the Fort Worth Stockyards — a fitting marker for a city whose nickname is “Cow Town.”

With TLBAA's maintenance of a registry for perpetuating the Longhorn breed in a pure state, coupled with the increase in number of cross-bred steer, Texas' official large mammal seems well protected. **NOW**

Sources:

<http://Longhornfacts.weebly.com/>  
[www.rightsidesd.com/](http://www.rightsidesd.com/)  
[www.sciencedaily.com](http://www.sciencedaily.com)  
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## BusinessNOW

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— By Bill Smith

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Friday: 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Entering the lobby of Ovilla Family Dentistry makes a positive impression, and it is not only the large lobby well-appointed with comfortable furniture, but also the photography of Dr. Shaw's dental mission trips that draw one's attention. The photos were taken by Dr. Shaw's husband, who



accompanied her on the trips, and they tell a story of great compassion by a caring, competent dentist.

Ovilla Family Dentistry has a philosophy of practice that is stated on its website, "All patients should be treated with the same care we would give our own family. Gentleness, understanding, timeliness, quality and esthetics get top consideration at our office."

Dr. Shaw expanded on the philosophy, stating, "We put a lot of emphasis on preventive care, including oral cancer screening. It's all about relieving pain and creating functional, beautiful smiles. We do that for each individual based on what they want and can afford. It is not a 'one size fits all.'"

Dr. Shaw has been practicing in Ovilla for more than 20 years. She received her Doctorate of Dental Surgery from Baylor College of Dentistry (now Texas A&M College of Dentistry) and previously served as a clinical assistant professor at the college. "There have been some exciting changes in



recent years. Probably the biggest improvement is in the area of digital technology,” Dr. Shaw explained.

“Digital imaging gives us the ability to see things we couldn’t see before when we were using film X-rays. And digital scanning means we no longer have to use the old-fashioned trays of goop to get a mold. It’s much more comfortable for our patients, and it provides a superior fitting crown,” she explained.

The staff at Ovilla Family Dentistry has a wealth of experience, as two of the employees have been with the practice for more than 20 years. There is a total of seven valued employees, the most recent to join the team being Dr. Bethany Sharpe.

Dr. Sharpe is a graduate of Louisiana State University School of Dentistry and had been practicing for more than five years before joining Dr. Shaw in August 2019. Dr. Shaw commented, “Our practice is growing. We are open five days a week, and I needed another full-time dentist. Dr. Sharpe is a great fit in our practice, and if I were to say how she got here, I would say, ‘God sent her!’”

Dr. Sharpe said the move to Ellis County has been good for her. “It has been a great change of scenery, and I love being out of the Dallas traffic,” she mused. “I made the decision to pursue dentistry when I was in high school. I always loved science, and after doing some hospital rotations, I knew there were some areas there that I did not see as a good fit for my future.

“One of my teachers said perhaps I should shadow a dentist, and after spending a summer in a dentist’s office, I was off to Centenary College in Shreveport, where I also played basketball. That summer in the dentist’s office cemented my career path, so I went from there to LSU for my doctorate.”

Having recently been accepted as a volunteer dentist with Samaritan’s Purse, Dr. Shaw was scheduled to go on a mission trip to Rwanda this year, but due to COVID-19, that trip has been put on hold until next year. Whether it is in their office in Ovilla or on a mission trip to a Third World country, Ovilla Family Dentistry provides the highest level of compassionate care to its patients. **NOW**



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Dr. Shaw's granddaughter

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Sisters Katelyn Adair and Sophia Steffgen enjoy treats while sightseeing in Downtown Midlothian.

## Zoomed In: Annette and Chris Poteet

By Angel Morris

Supporting youth with special needs, Annette and Chris Poteet and Poteet Martial Arts hosted a community yard sale at Midlothian Civic Center. Donated items ranged from home goods to vintage furniture, with proceeds benefiting the Posse Outlaws, a self-named group of youth who are part of the North Texas ITF Taekwon-Do nonprofit organization. "Our competitors and coaches have worked the U.S. traveling team three times, and funds from this sale not only support that but help us provide special needs martial arts for local families," Chris explained. Annette added that the program is not just a positive learning environment for participants. "It is also a small way to take some of the stress off families who might otherwise not be able to afford classes like these," she noted.



Coach Johnston models the #PanthersUnite gaiters received by all MHS football players this season.



Lavonia McDonald presents a handcrafted piece of crystal art to the new fire station in appreciation of first responders who often assist her.





Dieterich Middle School office staffers Emma Adair, Kirstin Wilson and Danielle Schrodtt are all smiles beneath their masks with the school year underway.



Project Graduation Board Member, Cathy Ivers, and daughter, Jacklyn, distribute Class of 2021 T-shirts at Life Church.



Stephanie Hernandez shows off her granddaughter and her new business.



Members of Midlothian Action Commission gather snacks and thank you cards from the community to honor local police on Acts of Kindness Day.

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## CookingNOW

# *In the Kitchen With*

## BRANDY CAMBRON

— By Angel Morris

Brandy Cambron still remembers being in the kitchen at an early age with her mother watching and assisting. “My mother worked a full-time job in banking but always managed to have a home-cooked meal on the dinner table every evening. She would come in straight from work and begin cooking while still in her work clothes. The only time we’d eat out is when she’d stop by Aday’s Chicken in Waxahachie on her way home from work.”

Brandy’s grandmother also cooked with care. “I remember going to my grandmother’s house after church on Sundays and gathering around her table to enjoy a wonderful meal that she had prepared with love.

“Sharing meals is more important today than ever,” Brandy said. “People’s lives are so busy meals are from a drive-through or restaurant. Enjoying a home-cooked meal with family and friends forces us to slow down and fellowship with one another.” **NOW**

### Southern Chicken Salad

**1 lb. cooked boneless, skinless chicken breasts, cut into 1/2-inch cubes**  
**1 cup mayonnaise**  
**1 cup celery, thinly sliced**  
**1 cup seedless purple grapes, halved**  
**1/2 cup sliced almonds, toasted**  
**1 Tbsp. parsley, finely chopped**  
**1 tsp. kosher salt, plus more to taste**  
**1/2 cup cream, whipped (optional)**  
**Ground black pepper, to taste**

**1.** Combine the first 7 ingredients in a bowl.  
**2.** Add the whipped cream, if using, and the black pepper; fold to combine. Refrigerate for two hours prior to serving.

### Vermicelli Salad

**1 12-oz. pkg. vermicelli, cooked according to pkg. directions**  
**2 Tbsp. Accent**  
**2 Tbsp. Lawry’s Seasoned Salt**  
**3 Tbsp. lemon juice**

**4 Tbsp. Wesson oil**  
**1 4-oz. jar diced pimentos, drained**  
**1 cup green pepper, diced**  
**3/4 cup onion, diced**  
**1 small can black olives, chopped**  
**2 cups celery, diced**  
**3/4 cup Hellman’s mayonnaise**

**1.** Rinse the cooked vermicelli with cold water; drain and cool. Cover; marinate the vermicelli overnight in Accent, seasoned salt, lemon juice and oil.

**2.** The next day, combine the vermicelli mixture with pimentos, green peppers, onions, olives, celery and mayonnaise. Toss; refrigerate for 4 hours prior to serving.

### Nanny’s Buttermilk Pie

*Piecrust:*

**1 1/3 cups sifted all-purpose flour**  
**(Sift before measuring.)**  
**1/2 tsp. salt**  
**1/2 cup Crisco shortening**  
**3 Tbsp. cold water**

*Buttermilk Pie Filling:*

**1 1/2 cups sugar**



**1 heaping Tbsp. all-purpose flour**  
**3 large eggs, slightly beaten**  
**1 tsp. pure vanilla extract**  
**1 stick butter, melted**  
**1 cup buttermilk**

- 1. For crust:** In a large bowl, whisk together the flour and salt. Add the Crisco; use a pastry blender or your fingers to cut the Crisco into the flour until it is thoroughly coated and blended.
- 2.** Gradually add the water on top; stir until the dough comes together. The dough should not be watery or wet.
- 3.** Shape the dough into a flattened ball. Lightly dust the counter and rolling pin with flour; roll the dough out to a round 2 1/2 inches larger than a 9-inch pie plate. Transfer the dough to the pie plate; carefully ease it into the edges. Use your fingers to crimp the crust along the rim.
- 4. For filling:** Combine the sugar, flour, eggs, vanilla and melted butter. Gradually add the buttermilk; beat well. Pour the filling into the unbaked crust. Bake approximately 25-30 minutes at 350 F.

## Old Faithful Chocolate Cake

*Cake batter:*

**2 sticks margarine**  
**4 Tbsp. Hershey's Unsweetened Cocoa Powder**  
**1/2 cup water**  
**2 cups all-purpose flour**  
**2 cups sugar**  
**1 tsp. baking soda**  
**2 large eggs**  
**1 cup buttermilk**

*Icing:*

**1 stick margarine**  
**4 Tbsp. Hershey's Unsweetened Cocoa Powder**  
**6 Tbsp. whole milk**  
**1 box powdered sugar**  
**1 tsp. pure vanilla extract**  
**1 cup pecans, chopped (optional)**

- 1. For batter:** In a saucepan, melt the margarine with the cocoa powder and water on low until dissolved. In a large bowl, blend the flour, sugar and baking soda together. Pour the cocoa mixture over the dry mixture; add eggs and buttermilk.
- 2.** Stir well; pour the batter into a greased and floured 13x9-inch pan or 2 8-inch cake pans. Bake at 350 F for 25 to 30 minutes.
- 3. For icing:** In a small saucepan, dissolve margarine, cocoa powder and milk. Once dissolved, add powdered sugar, vanilla extract and pecans, if using.

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Nanny's Southern Pecan Pie

**4.** Frost the cake while it is still warm. The icing will set up and harden on the cake after a few minutes.

## Nanny's Southern Pecan Pie

### *Piecrust:*

- 1 1/3 cups sifted all-purpose flour**  
(Sift before measuring.)
- 1/2 tsp. salt**
- 1/2 cup Crisco shortening**
- 3 Tbsp. cold water**

### *Pecan Pie Filling:*

- 1 cup pecan halves**

### **3 eggs**

- 1/2 cup sugar**
- 1 cup light Karo syrup**
- 1 tsp. pure vanilla extract**
- 4 Tbsp. melted butter**

- 1. For crust:** In a large bowl, whisk together the flour and salt. Add the Crisco; use a pastry blender or your fingers to cut the Crisco into the flour until it is thoroughly coated and blended.
- 2.** Gradually add the water on top; stir until the dough comes together. The dough should not be watery or wet.
- 3.** Shape the dough into a flattened ball.

Lightly dust the counter and rolling pin with flour; roll the dough out to a round 2 1/2 inches larger than a 9-inch pie plate. Transfer the dough to the pie plate; carefully ease it into the edges. Use your fingers to crimp the crust along the rim.

**4. For filling:** Place the pecan halves in the bottom of the unbaked piecrust, completely covering the bottom of the crust. Beat the eggs lightly; gradually add in the sugar. Add Karo, vanilla extract and melted butter; continue to beat until well blended.

**5.** Pour the mixture over the pecans; bake at 400 F for 15 minutes; reduce the temperature to 350 F. Bake for an additional 30 minutes.

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## TravelNOW Beyond Trade Days

— By *Lisa Bell*

Best recognized for the world-renowned original First Monday Trade Days, Canton, Texas, draws massive crowds for the monthly event. But the town doesn't fold up and disappear during the rest of the month. While everyone probably should experience the famous trade days at least once, Canton offers far more than the biggest outdoor shopping extravaganza in the United States.

When visiting Canton, don't miss the Van Zandt County Memorial Plaza, an extraordinary veterans' memorial site worth visiting. Despite the location at a major intersection, the plaza provides a quiet place for reflection and appeals

to all ages. What child, of any age, doesn't want to walk beneath a suspended plane and helicopter? A U.S. Army tank and U.S. Coast Guard boat add to the flanks surrounding a statue posted mid-plaza, honoring veterans from all military branches. A covered gazebo and benches give visitors time to consider history and men and women who served and remain in active duty. Nearby, the Van Zandt County Gift Shop and Museum recently reopened, featuring fresh exhibits and recorded interviews with local heroes. The website, [www.vzcm.org](http://www.vzcm.org), also contains stories and historical information.

Since 2000, Yesterland Farm hosts families who want a



taste of nature but with more fun than imaginable. With a variety of rides, activities and food, plan on spending the day. For the first time, Yesterland Farm remained open during the summer of 2020, featuring all things peach. During the spring, visitors also enjoy Bunny Palooza. But come fall, a pumpkin patch and corn maze bring Texas-style fall to life. In the evenings, the corn maze becomes frightening, but during the day, it's simply fun. At Christmas, Santa's workshop takes over the grounds, creating a memorable experience for the entire family.

Head downtown for food and shopping. Stop in the old theater, which houses the Canton Chamber of Commerce and the Canton Museum. Marvel at the hundreds of bells lining one wall, the Kennedy Native American collection or the old fire truck. While there, gather information on all the exciting places to visit.

And, of course, come for the Original First Monday Trade Days. The tradition began in 1850 and remains a living history. When the circuit judge came to town the first Monday of each month, the locals brought in goods to trade. What started with horses eventually changed to dogs, other animals, produce and more. Bartering abounded back then. By 1965, the event outgrew the courthouse square, so the city bought 6 acres to expand trading. Over the years, they added the weekend. Today, regardless of weather, the event occurs Thursday through Sunday prior to the first Monday and covers 450 acres. The Mountain area maintains the Old West style, capturing a bit of history. Some say if you can't find it at Canton, no one's making it.

Canton offers festivals throughout the year, music on the square most weekends, the Buffalo Creek Motorsports Complex, multiple parks, Splash Kingdom and more. With area resorts, any time of the month can be a fun family getaway. Time your trip for trade days, but plan on staying longer and enjoy the unexpected. **NOW**

Photos by Lisa Bell.

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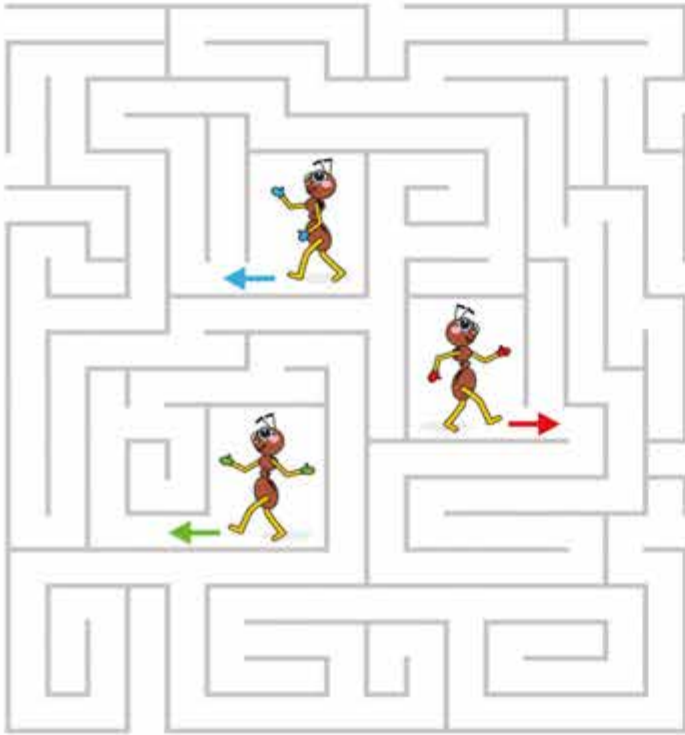
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or to make a donation.**

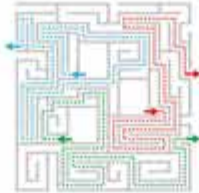


# Kids' Fun Page

Help the ants to get out of the labyrinth.



ANSWER:



## Word Search of School things



11	-		=	10
-			-	
=			=	
9	-	3	=	

3	+		=	
+			+	
5			2	
=			=	
	-	1	=	

	+	7	=	
+			+	
5				
=			=	
	+	7	=	14

1	+		=	9
+			-	
4				
=			=	
	-	2	=	

	+	5	=	8
+			+	
			8	
=			=	
11	+		=	

15	-		=	
-			-	
9			9	
=			=	
	-		=	2



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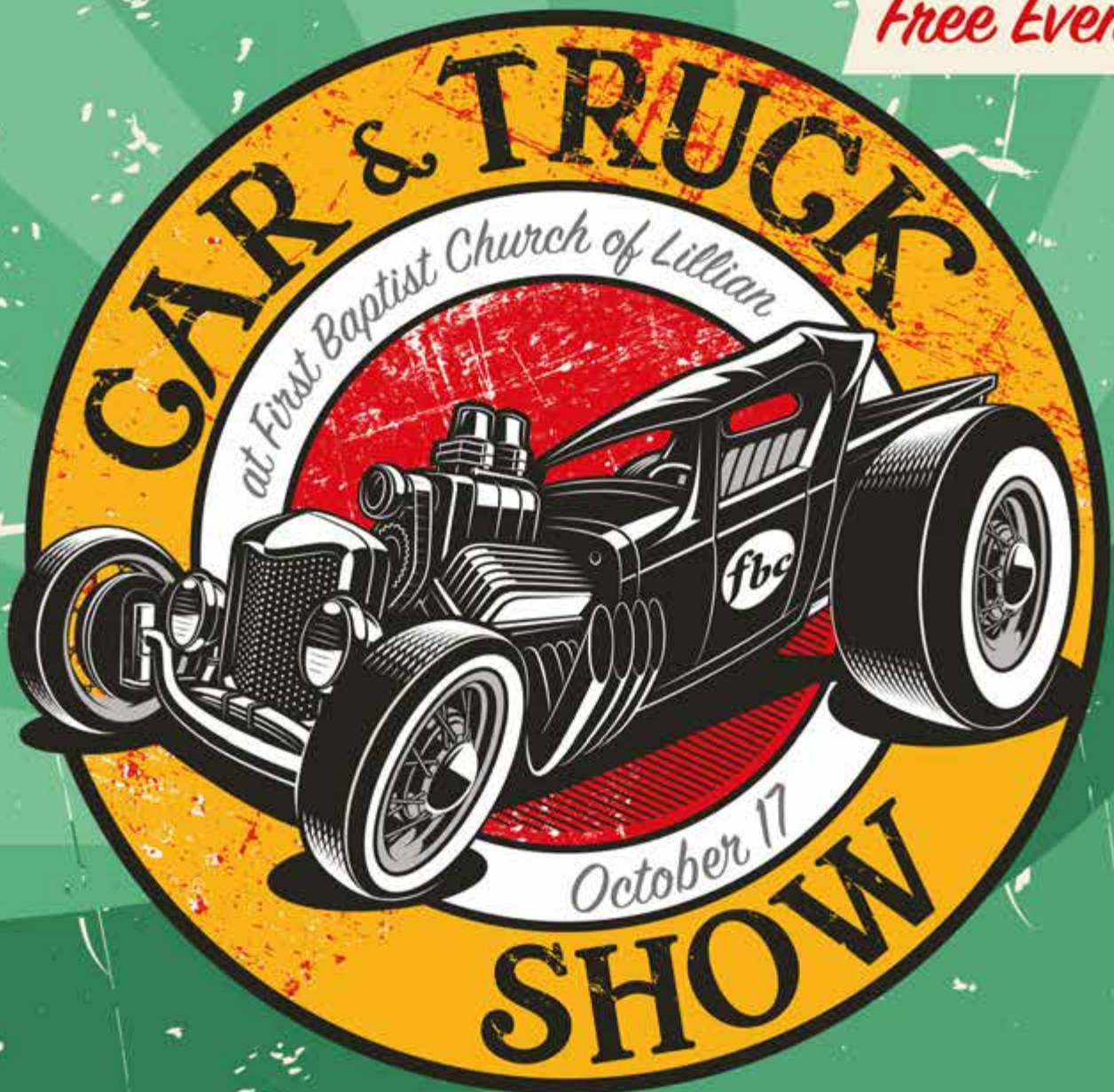
[southernstarfootandankle.com](http://southernstarfootandankle.com)



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RAIN OUT DATE: OCTOBER 24





# GUTTER GROOMING

— By Angel Morris

Gutter is a word commonly used regarding street drainage or bad bowling, until you become a homeowner. Then gutters gain new meaning when you learn that cleaning and maintaining them is a must to avoid damage to the soffit and fascia of your home's eaves.

Rain and snow result in water that flows from rooftops to the ground. Gutters allow this to happen while protecting your home from water damage and leaks. Therefore, keeping gutters unclogged by leaves and debris is essential. Here are some basic tips for cleaning and maintaining your home's gutters.

## Downloading the Debris

Just like going to the dentist, experts suggest twice-yearly maintenance of gutters and downspouts, preferably at the end of spring and fall. Of course, this requires a tall enough ladder to see atop your gutters, and a receptacle into which you will place debris, such as a large bucket. Once all debris is removed, it is also a good idea to flush gutters with a water hose.

While hosing out gutters, homeowners can look for leaks and places where water is pooling. If water is pooling, it could be a sign of a blockage somewhere along your gutters. If leaking, there may be holes or improperly sealed gutter connections.







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When water pools atop a downspout, there could be a clog down the tube, which will need to be broken up with a drain snake or auger, both of which are available at local hardware stores with explanations on proper use. Once snaked, you should again hose out the gutter to remove debris and confirm any blockages are cleared.

## Locating the Leaks

With gutters draining freely, it is now important to locate leaks within gutters and downspouts and repair the holes causing them. Roofing cement or silicon caulk is a quick and easy solution for repairing small holes after you have removed any rust with a wire brush. Smooth roofing cement with a putty knife to avoid creating areas where debris might catch.

Larger holes may require metal flashing for repair. You will want to clean several inches around these holes with a stiff wire brush, giving your roofing







cement ample clean, smooth area to which it can adhere.

Using flashing made of the same material as your gutters, cut enough of the flashing to cover and extend a couple of inches beyond the hole. Working inside, not outside the gutter, put roofing cement beneath the patch and hold it in place several seconds. Then run cement along each top seam of your patch, smoothing the cement as you go with a putty knife.

To enable water and debris to flow smoothly over any patches, you should also create a ramp with the roofing cement that is flush with the gutter on one end, running over the patch and flush down the opposite side.

Large holes in elbow connections or downspouts are probably best repaired with replacement parts rather than patches. Additionally, an array of gutter covers is available to limit the chance of leaves and debris working their way into gutters and causing damage.

## The Final Fixes

In addition, gutter maintenance involves ensuring water exiting downspouts is diverted away from the house with either an extension to the downspout, an irrigation pipe or splash blocks.

Lastly, loose or drooping gutters may require replacement of worn gutter spikes with gutter screws, which hold better than standard spikes. A cordless drill will be required for this task. **NOW**

Sources:

[www.modernize.com](http://www.modernize.com)

[www.todayshomeowner.com](http://www.todayshomeowner.com)

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Early Voting October 13th-17th, 19th-30th

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Please wash and disinfect hands upon entering and exiting the voting area.



Maintain 6 feet of physical distance between any others where possible.



If possible, please use your own pen for the check-in process.



It is recommended to use the cotton swab provided at the polling station to make your ballot selections without touching the voting device.



If you are 65 or older, consider submitting an application for a mail-in ballot



Vote curbside if you exhibit any symptoms of COVID-19.



**VOTE**





# MANTENTE SEGURO EN EL LUGAR DE VOTACIÓN

**Recomendacion para una votacion sanitaria**  
**2020 Elecciones General y Especial:**  
**Votación anticipada 13-17, 19-30 de Octubre**  
**Dia de eleccion Martes 3 de Noviembre de 2020**

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**Te recomendamos usar el hisopo de algodón proporcionado por el area de votar para hacer su selección sin tocar el dispositivo de votación.**



**Si tiene 65 años o más, considere enviar una solicitud para una boleta por correo.**



**Puede votar en su vehiculo si presenta algun síntoma de COVID-19.**



**VOTAR**





## Ellis County, Texas *Condado de Ellis, Texas*

### General and Special Elections *Elecciones General y Especial*

**November 3, 2020** *03 de noviembre de 2020*

### **Early Voting Vote Centers** *Centros de votación adelantada*

The below listed Early Voting Vote Centers will be established for any qualified voter with an effective date of registration on or before November 3, 2020. A voter may vote at ANY of the Early Voting Vote Centers for the General and Special Elections.

*Las ubicaciones para centros de votación anticipada que se enumeran a continuación se establecerán para cualquier votante calificado con una fecha efectiva de registro en o antes del 03 de noviembre de 2020. Un votante puede votar en cualquiera de los lugares de votación anticipada para las Elecciones General y Especial.*

#### **Early Voting Location Dates and Times:**

*Ubicación, fechas, y horarios de la votación anticipada:*

#### **1. Main Early Voting Site - First United Methodist Church**

**(Fidelis Hall) 505 W Marvin Ave**

**Waxahachie, TX 75165**

#### **2. Ellis County Sub-Courthouse (Foyer) 207 S Sonoma Trail**

**Ennis, TX 75119**

#### **3. Midlothian Conf. Ctr (Ballroom/Foyer) 1 Community Circle Dr. Midlothian, TX 76065**

#### **4. Palmer ISD Annex Bldg (Portable Bldg) 303 Bulldog Way**

**Palmer, TX 75152**

#### **5. Grace Covenant Church (Dining Hall) 212 N Main Street**

**Red Oak, TX 75154**

#### **6. Harvest of Praise (House of Manna Rm) 2603 S Hampton Rd**

**Glenn Heights, TX 75154**

<b>Tuesday, October 13, 2020</b> <i>martes, 13 de octubre de 2020</i>	<b>through</b> <i>hasta</i>	<b>Friday, October 16, 2020</b> <i>viernes, 16 de octubre de 2020</i>	<b>8:00 AM - 5:00 PM</b> <i>8:00 AM - 5:00 PM</i>
<b>Saturday, October 17, 2020</b> <i>sábado, 17 de octubre de 2020</i>			<b>8:00 AM - 4:00 PM</b> <i>8:00 AM - 4:00 PM</i>
<b>Monday, October 19, 2020</b> <i>lunes, 19 de octubre de 2020</i>	<b>through</b> <i>hasta</i>	<b>Friday, October 23, 2020</b> <i>viernes, 23 de octubre de 2020</i>	<b>8:00 AM - 6:00 PM</b> <i>8:00 AM - 6:00 PM</i>
<b>Saturday, October 24, 2020</b> <i>sábado, 24 de octubre de 2020</i>			<b>7:00 AM - 7:00 PM</b> <i>7:00 AM - 7:00 PM</i>
<b>Sunday, October 25, 2020</b> <i>domingo, 25 de octubre de 2020</i>			<b>1:00 PM - 6:00 PM</b> <i>1:00 PM - 6:00 PM</i>
<b>Monday, October 26, 2020</b> <i>lunes, 26 de octubre de 2020</i>	<b>through</b> <i>hasta</i>	<b>Friday, October 30, 2020</b> <i>viernes, 30 de octubre de 2020</i>	<b>7:00 AM - 7:00 PM</b> <i>7:00 AM - 7:00 PM</i>

**Last day to register to vote for the General and Special Elections is: Monday, October 05, 2020.**

*Último día para registrarse para votar en la Elecciones General y Especial es: lunes, 05 de octubre de 2020.*

**Last day for the Election's Office to receive a Regular or FPCA Ballot by Mail Application (October 16th is the last day the voter can walk-in and hand deliver an application) : Friday, October 23, 2020.**

*El Último día para que la Oficina de Elecciones reciba una solicitud regular o una solicitud de tarjeta postal federal para votar por correo (FPCA-por sus siglas en inglés) es (El 16 de Octubre es el último día en que el votante puede venir en persona y entregar personalmente una solicitud): viernes, 23 de octubre de 2020.*

**Notice is hereby given of state law for acceptable credentials for voting in person. A voter will be required to show one of the seven approved forms of photo identification. Voters who do not possess and cannot reasonably obtain one of the seven forms of approved photo ID will be able to execute a Reasonable Impediment Declaration and provide a supporting form of identification. <https://www.votetexas.gov>**

*Aviso-por este medio se da aviso de la ley del Estado para las credenciales aceptables para votar en persona. Un votante tendrá que mostrar una de las siete formas aprobadas de identificación con foto o los votantes que no poseen y que razonablemente no pueden obtener una de las siete formas de identificación con fotografía aprobada podrán ejecutar una Declaración de Impedimento Razonable y proporcionar un formulario de respaldo de identificación. <https://www.votetexas.gov>*

**For More Information: Website at [www.co.ellis.tx.us/Elections](http://www.co.ellis.tx.us/Elections) OR [Facebook.com/EllisCountyElections](https://www.facebook.com/EllisCountyElections)  
OR Contact us at Elections Office 204 E Jefferson Waxahachie, TX 75165 972-825-5195**



**Ellis County, Texas** *Condado de Ellis, Texas*  
**General and Special Elections** *Elecciones General y Especial*  
**November 3, 2020** *03 de noviembre de 2020*

**Election Day Vote Centers** *Centros de votación el día de las elecciones*

**Polls open from 7:00 am to 7:00 pm**

*Horario de votación estarán abiertos de 7:00 am a 7:00 pm*

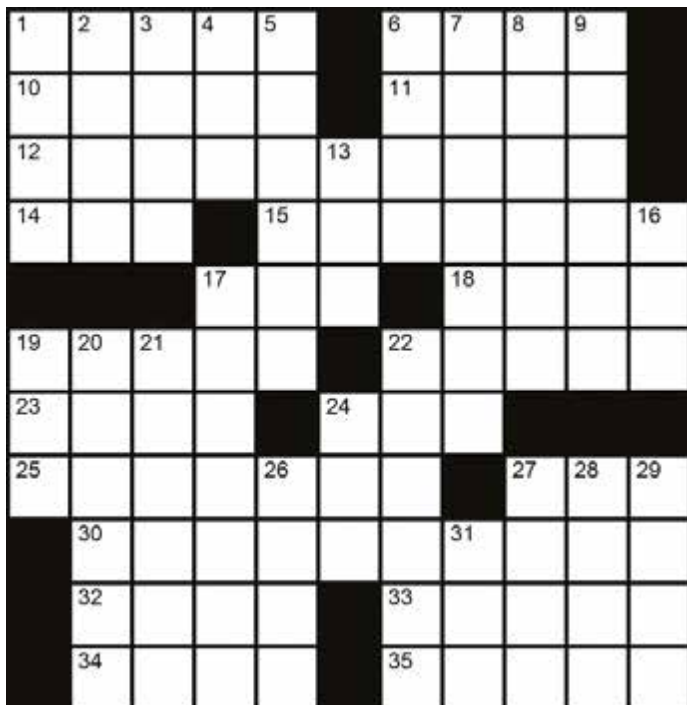
**The below listed Election Day Vote Centers will be established for any qualified voter with an effective date of registration on or before November 3, 2020. A voter may vote at ANY of the Election Day Vote Centers for the General and Special Elections.**

*Las ubicaciones para centros de voto de días de votación se establecerán para cualquier votante calificado con una fecha efectiva de registro en o antes del 03 de noviembre de 2020. Un votante puede votar en cualquiera de los centros de votación de día de las elecciones para las Elecciones General y Especial.*

1	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH-AVALON (Annex) 206 GILES STREET	AVALON, TX 76623
2	FIRST UNITED METHODIST-BARDWELL (Church Annex) 104 PECAN ST	BARDWELL, TX 75119
3	BRISTOL UNITED METHODIST (Fellowship Hall) 104 CHURCH ST	BRISTOL, TX 75119
4	ALMA COMMUNITY CENTER (Foyer) 104 INTERURBAN RD	ENNIS, TX 75119
5	ELLIS COUNTY SUB-COURTHOUSE (Conference Rm) 207 S SONOMA TRAIL	ENNIS, TX 75119
6	ENNIS PUBLIC LIBRARY (Learning Center) 501 W. ENNIS AVE	ENNIS, TX 75119
7	FAITH ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH (Fellowship Hall) 1810 W BALDRIDGE ST.	ENNIS, TX 75119
8	NEW FOUNDERS MISS. BAPTIST (Fellowship Hall) 1903 LAFAYETTE ST.	ENNIS, TX 75119
9	FERRIS PUBLIC LIBRARY (Aubrey Trussell Rm) 301 E 10TH STREET	FERRIS, TX 75125
10	FORRESTON BAPTIST CHURCH (Fellowship Hall) 211 SEVENTH ST.	FORRESTON, TX 76041
11	HARVEST OF PRAISE (House of Manna Rm) 2603 S HAMPTON RD	GLENN HEIGHTS, 75154
12	MT GILEAD BAPTIST CHURCH (Fellowship Hall) 106 HARRIS ST.	ITALY, TX 76651
13	FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH-MAYPEARL (Fellowship Hall) 5744 FM 66	MAYPEARL, TX 76064
14	MIDLOTHIAN CHURCH OF CHRIST (Fellowship Hall) 1627 N HWY 67	MIDLOTHIAN, TX 76065
15	MIDLOTHIAN CONFERENCE CTR (Foyer) 1 COMMUNITY CIRCLE DR	MIDLOTHIAN, TX 76065
16	MOUNTAIN PEAK COMMUNITY CHURCH (Sanctuary) 751 W. FM 875	MIDLOTHIAN, TX 76065
17	SARDIS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH (Fellowship Hall) 640 SARDIS RD	MIDLOTHIAN, TX 76065
18	STONEGATE CHURCH (Rams Rm) 4025 E US 287	MIDLOTHIAN, TX 76065
19	THE SHEPHERD'S HOUSE (Sanctuary) 3221 MOCKINGBIRD LN	MIDLOTHIAN, TX 76065
20	MILFORD SENIOR CITIZEN CENTER (Main Rm) 109 S MAIN ST	MILFORD, TX 76670
21	GRACE CHURCH OF OVILLA (Flex Rm Bldg B) 519 WESTMORELAND RD	OVILLA, TX 75154
22	OVILLA CITY HALL (Council Chambers) 105 S COCKRELL HILL RD	OVILLA, TX 75154
23	PALMER ISD ANNEX BUILDING (Portable Bldg) 303 BULLDOG WAY	PALMER, TX 75152
24	EASTRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH (Family Activity Ctr) 732 E OVILLA RD	RED OAK, TX 75154
25	LIFEPOINT COMMUNITY CHURCH (Fellowship Hall) 201 LOUISE RITTER RD	RED OAK, TX 75154
26	RED OAK MUNICIPAL CENTER (Pitts Room) 200 LAKEVIEW PKWY	RED OAK, TX 75154
27	GRACE COVENANT CHURCH (Dining Hall) 212 N MAIN ST	RED OAK, TX 75154
28	BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH (Fellowship Hall) 1400 FM 1446	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75167
29	ELLIS COUNTY WOMANS BUILDING (Main Room) 407 W JEFFERSON ST.	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165
30	FARLEY STREET BAPTIST CHURCH (Foyer) 1116 BROWN ST.	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165
31	FIRST UNITED METHODIST-WAXAHACHIE (Fidelis Hall) 505 W MARVIN AVE	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165
32	PARK MEADOWS BAPTIST CHURCH (Foyer) 3350 N HWY 77	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165
33	SALVATION ARMY OF ELLIS CO. (Fellowship Hall in rear) 620 FARLEY ST.	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165
34	SOUTHLAKE BAPTIST CHURCH (Sanctuary) 2378 S HWY 77	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165
35	THE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH (Venue Rm) 1761 N HWY 77	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165
36	WAXAHACHIE CIVIC CENTER (MTG RM C) 2000 CIVIC CENTER LANE	WAXAHACHIE, TX 75165



# Crossword Puzzle



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## Across

- 1 Pass through Congress
- 6 Shot on the ice
- 10 — Lama
- 11 Switch off
- 12 Nonphysical
- 14 As well
- 15 Menu at the edge
- 17 Cyst
- 18 Trick
- 19 No later than
- 22 Outmoded
- 23 Sassy
- 24 — Rio, Texas
- 25 Take a — it (Go for it!)
- 27 Frequently
- 30 "On top of that ..."
- 32 Female first name Ms. Minnelli rejected
- 33 S American republic is cold by the sound of it
- 34 Ultimate
- 35 Irritably impatient

## Down

- 1 Prepare for publication
- 2 "Small" prefix
- 3 Voice below a soprano
- 4 He came between J A G and G C
- 5 Hollywood town?
- 6 Kind of row
- 7 Copious
- 8 Everyone except
- 9 Make happy
- 13 Cotton seed remover
- 16 Wine selection
- 17 See
- 19 Downs' partner
- 20 Mike —, "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire" director
- 21 Inessentials
- 22 What shamuses do
- 24 Flatfish
- 26 Tiny biter
- 27 Elevating outfit?
- 28 Experienced
- 29 Small club, maybe
- 31 Much-used article

Solutions on page 52

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# Sudoku Puzzle

Easy

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

Medium

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

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Solutions on page 52

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# Happy Fall

## October

Due to COVID-19, some events may have been cancelled or rescheduled while we were at press. Check with individual organizations or your city or Chamber websites to verify dates and times.

10/2

### 16th Annual Golf Tournament:

Hosted by the MISD Education Foundation. Registration and open lunch: 11:00 a.m.; Shotgun start: 1:00 p.m., Mansfield National Golf Club, 3750 National Pkwy., Mansfield.

10/3

### Midlothian Classic Wheels Car Show:

Benefiting local first responders. Opening: 10:00 a.m.; judging: 1:00 p.m.; awards: 3:00 p.m., Kroger, 2200 FM 663.

For details, visit [www.midlothianclassicwheels.com](http://www.midlothianclassicwheels.com).

### Round Up for Paws for Reflection Ranch:

Western-themed event supporting therapeutic services. 6:00-10:00 p.m., 5431 Montgomery Rd. Call (972) 775-8966 or visit [www.pawsforreflectionranch.org/](http://www.pawsforreflectionranch.org/) for tickets.

10/8

### Southern Star Scramble:

Chamber Golf Tournament. Two shotgun starts at 8:00 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., 818 Tangle Ridge

Dr., Grand Prairie. Learn more at [www.midlothianchamber.org](http://www.midlothianchamber.org).

10/17

### Mobile Pantry:

Free, fresh produce distributed while supplies lasts. Car line forms at 9:30 a.m., Creekside Church, 5401 E. Hwy. 287

10/20

### National Night Out:

From yard displays to block parties, various events encourage community partnerships with local police. 6:00-8:00 p.m., participating neighborhoods.

Visit [www.midlothian.tx.us](http://www.midlothian.tx.us) to learn more.

10/23-10/24

### Super Seeders Yard Sale:

Fundraiser sale. Buy new plants, toys, household items, clothing or garden tools. 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., 1820 Mockingbird Ln.

Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your current event details to [angel.morris@nowmagazines.com](mailto:angel.morris@nowmagazines.com).



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No big smiles or other joyful expressions by 6 months	No babbling by 12 months	No words by 16 months
-------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------	-----------------------

**Ad Council**

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## Crossword - Sudoku Solutions

1	E	N	A	C	T		S	L	A	P
10	D	A	L	A	I		K	I	L	L
12	I	N	T	A	N		G	I	B	L
14	T	O	O		S	I	D	E	B	A
					W	E	N		R	U
19	U	N	T	I	L		D	A	T	E
23	P	E	R	T		D	E	L		
25	S	W	I	N	G	A	T		O	F
					E	V	E	N	B	E
32	L	I	S	A			C	H	I	L
34	L	A	S	T			T	E	S	T

Easy

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

Medium

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



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