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M A G A Z I N E

OCTOBER 2021

Making of a Mentor

Wes Dorough knows
caring counts

Also inside:

Scavenger Hunt

Crossword/Sudoku

Featured Business:
Morgan Dentistry

In the Kitchen With
Shane Croft

Postal Customer

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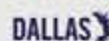


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CONTENTS

8 MAKING OF A MENTOR

Red Oak native, Wes Dorough, builds futures through hindsight.

14 AROUND TOWNNOW

16 BUSINESSNOW

Morgan Dentistry

20 COOKINGNOW

Shane Croft

8



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ON THE COVER

Wes Dorough is the recipient of the first ever Carl Smith Outstanding Mentor Award presented by Mentors Care.

Photo by
Shane Kirkpatrick.

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Coffee TALK



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| Oct 20 | 7:30 AM | Eastridge ES |
| Nov 3 | 7:30 AM | Wooden ES |
| Nov 17 | 7:30 AM | Schupmann ES |
| Dec 1 | 7:30 AM | Shields ES |
| Dec 15 | 8:00 AM | Red Oak MS |

www.RedOakISD.org/CoffeeTalk

Fall Events

- Oct. 4 - State Fair Day (No School)
- Oct. 8 - Varsity Football Pink Out
- Oct. 11 - Education Foundation Partnership Golf Tournament
- Oct. 15 - Parent/Teacher Conferences and ROHS Homecoming
- Oct. 18 - Staff Development (No School for Students)
- Oct. 25-29 - Red Ribbon Week
- Nov. 8 - Staff Development (No School for Students)
- Nov. 11 - Veterans Day

EDITOR'S NOTE



Angel

Angel Morris
North Ellis Co. NOW Editor
angel.morris@nowmagazines.com
(972) 533-7216

What a day!

Wouldn't it be weird if one day we woke up and everyone just *behaved*? I mean, can you even imagine? If we followed basic social etiquette guidelines like saying, "Please" and "Thank you," and holding the door for the person behind us? What if we stepped outside to take phone calls in public and, even better, turned our phones off when visiting with folks in person? How about looking at people when they speak to us and acknowledging we heard what they said?

Oh! What if we made a point to be on time for activities to which we actually sent an RSVP? Could we wait until everyone was served before digging in to our own meal? How about bringing a small token of appreciation to a host, or writing thank-you notes for gifts we received?

What would it be like if we stopped our grocery carts on the side of the aisles instead of smack-dab in the center? Then — get this — *returned* our buggies to the exterior corral rather than leaving them to roll into other people's cars? What if we then used our turn signals when we exited the lot? Or let people in front of us in traffic and shared a friendly wave with others who allowed us to cut in?

Can you fathom the difference these small things could make? Might we be able to move on to bigger courtesies? Could there *really* come a day when we actually treated everyone with kindness regardless of our differences? When we didn't accept the status quo, but recognized we're meant to work *together* for good? What if everyone woke up and just did their best?

What a day, indeed!

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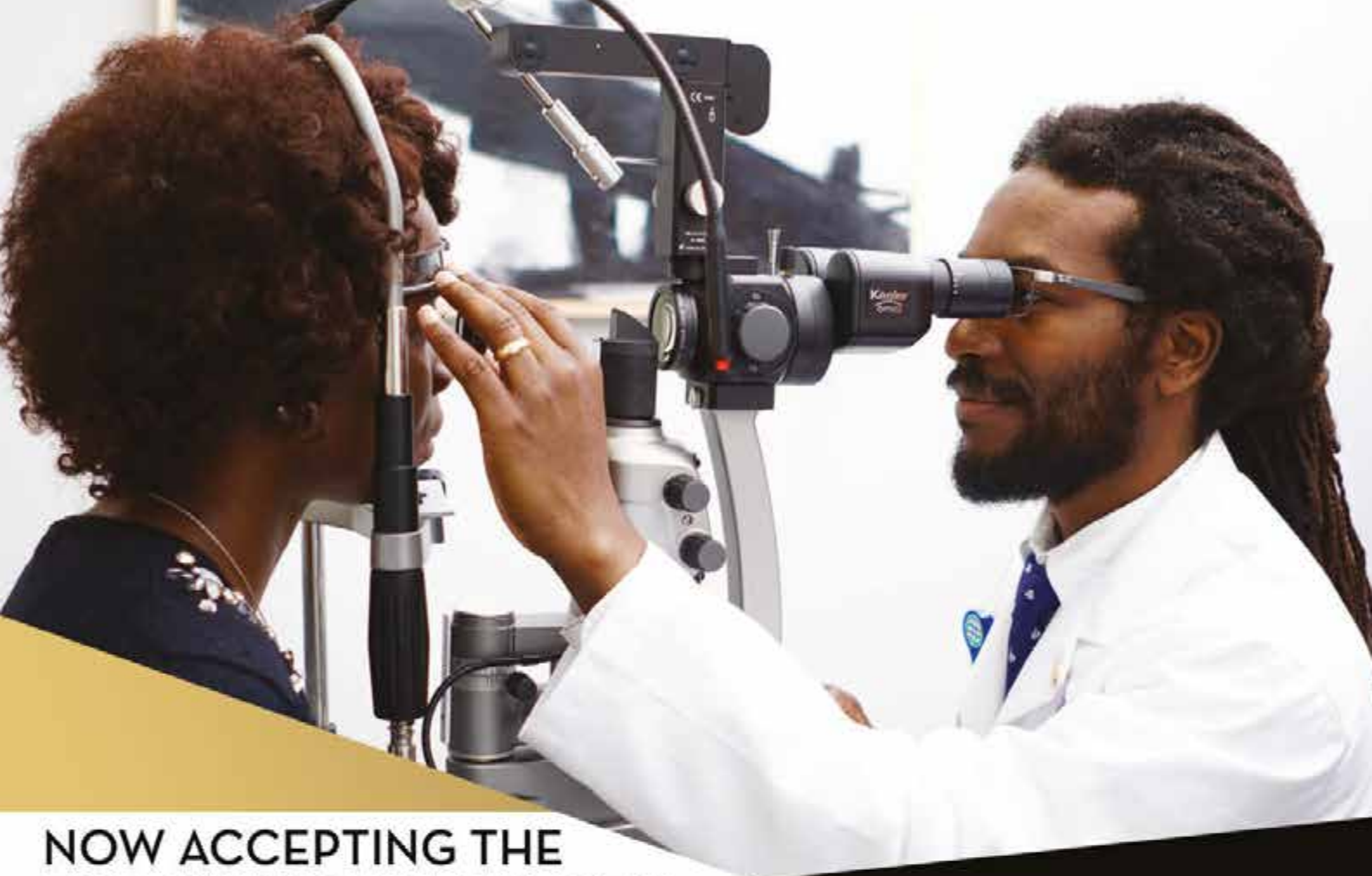


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MENTORS
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Red Oak native Wes Dorough uses hindsight to help others see their future more clearly. As a participant in Mentors Care, a nonprofit group that mentors high schoolers, Wes has helped three local teens find their confidence and pursue their dreams. “They all had a lack of support and needed someone to feed them with encouragement, truth and hope,” he noted.

MAKING OF A MENTOR

— By Angel Morris

Struggles in his own life — and a failure to listen to some who tried to guide him along the way — made Wes keenly aware of the importance of strong mentors. “In high school, I was preoccupied with baseball and fun. I put forth only the effort necessary to pass class so I could play,” he admitted. “I had mentors who poured into me, but I didn’t understand how much they were trying to help me. I didn’t realize how much working hard in school would have helped me grow and prepare for life.”

Wes went on to earn his bachelor’s degree in kinesiology from East Texas Baptist University, then became a construction manager for John Houston Homes. “Early in my career, however, I

was making a lot of unhealthy decisions personally. I was seeking out a lot of things to fill a void. Because of these decisions and bad habits, my marriage and career were hanging by a thread,” Wes reflected.

The turning point came in June 2017, when Wes and his wife discovered they were unable to have children. “I was on my patio crying and asking why I was going through all this pain at work and at home.” Right there on his back patio, Wes had a spiritual experience in which he sensed God’s love and forgiveness. With gratitude, he chose to trust and follow God.

Wes said it was then he realized how self-centered and stubborn he had been.

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"I was making these unhealthy decisions expecting a healthy result. I was relying only on myself and not seeking help from others. It had been all about me which led to emptiness, but after letting Jesus be the center of my life, healing, purpose and growth followed."

At the same time Wes began to acknowledge the importance of faith, a friend from high school began working with him at John Houston Homes. "He showed me that true leadership is characterized by men who serve others wholeheartedly," Wes acknowledged.

A new outlook led to healing in Wes's career and marriage. "Because I had a friend who met me where I was at and encouraged me to grow, I wanted to do the same for others, so that they could experience the healing and purpose that I have been given." Wes found that opportunity through Mentors Care, the program that "encourages action, hope and a future using volunteer mentors from the community to reach at-risk youths."

"The three young men I was partnered with made decisions to grow healthier and became more confident. They graduated, joined the workforce and started college," Wes outlined. "They are future leaders and will make a positive impact in the world in their own unique ways."

Wes said his primary goal as a mentor is, "to listen to them, love them and encourage them to never give up. I want to remind them that they have what it takes and honestly share from my own life experiences of what works and what doesn't."

Wes' efforts resulted in him receiving the first ever Carl Smith Outstanding Mentor Award earlier this year. The late



Carl Smith was a former Mentors Care board member and former Midlothian ISD school board trustee who was dedicated to helping struggling students. Wes was chosen to receive the honor out of more than 225 mentors across seven North Texas high schools.

"I would not be where I am today without Jesus and the many mentors He has placed in my life," Wes said upon receiving the award. "I'm humbled and thankful for the opportunity to help others."

Wes encourages others to use their own life experiences to mentor, as well. "You don't have to have all the answers. It's about being transparent about your own growth and genuinely seeking to understand people in order to help them," he promised. "It's like planting a seed and watering it every week knowing that, at the right time, it will bloom on its own when it's ready."



Wes also inspires folks through fitness. "I love helping people with health and wellness! Starting a class at work to help our employees physically, mentally and spiritually is one of my biggest successes."

Acknowledging his own improvement as a mentor, Wes said volunteerism is as much for himself as his students. "Being a volunteer at Mentors Care is one of the best ways to make a positive impact that could change generations to come," he explained. "It feels good to grow personally, but it's way better seeing someone else grow and knowing that you helped them get there." **NOW**



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Friends Caleb and Hudson climb trees near their homes in Ovilla.

Zoomed In: Meg Habasevich

By Angel Morris

Devastating happenings like the global pandemic and Texas ice storm led four-year Red Oak resident, Meg Habasevich, to create an event that would unify people “regardless of faith, ethnicity or political beliefs.” October 10, the community is invited to gather at Waxahachie’s Lumpkin Stadium, where leaders will encourage healing of hearts and minds. “The support was overwhelming. Doors started opening, and people came forward to be involved,” Meg said of her idea.

Involving 18 team members and volunteers from across Ellis County, the free two-hour inspirational event will feature a minister and author, Will Ford III, as keynote speaker and musical support from Southwestern Assemblies of God University. “We hope our example spreads until every county in Texas is doing something to unify and spread love in our communities!” Meg prompted.



Cole and Deboni Naylor have fun with Camila and Kalea Gallegos at Issa Vibe Nutrition.



Emma Cooper, Kristi Todd and Meagan Cooper welcome guests to Belle Studio's registration party.



First Red Oak Church volunteers assist in the 4:19 Food Pantry and North Texas Food Bank mobile distribution.



Kentoshia McCoy meets the ROHS Hawk mascot at Red Oak's Founder's Day.



Class of '22 members make memories at the Senior Sunrise breakfast.



Billy Burkes models a LEGO costume at Tight Wallets Resale.



Monty Grant and Taylor Hunter share Chick-fil-A Red Oak's My Pleasure Model.



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Morgan Dentistry

— By Angel Morris

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Morgan Dentistry celebrates its 50th anniversary this year, after opening in May 1971, and remains family-owned and -operated to this day. Originally located in Northgate Center by Dr. Mackey Morgan, the business has had two additional locations, including its Waxahachie address in the Medical Plaza. “At its beginning, Waxahachie had a population of



approximately 14,000 residents, and Morgan Dentistry was the fifth dental practice in town,” current owner, Dr. Mark Morgan, noted.

Dr. Mark joined his father at Morgan Dentistry in January of 1994, and the two worked together until Mackey’s retirement in 2019. Like his father, Dr. Mark has helped Morgan Dentistry keep pace with not only the community’s growth, but also with advances in dental treatment and technology — all while maintaining a commitment to deliver the very best in dental care to patients.

The dental office strives to provide personalized treatment for each patient in a friendly, comfortable atmosphere. Patients have individual needs, concerns, desires and dental histories that are taken into account to provide this customized care. “Along with understanding patients’ dental concerns, getting to know our patients personally also provides additional comfort and personalized service,” Dr. Mark promised. “Current patients

are often children, or even grandchildren, of other patients. Additionally, many of the Morgan dentistry employees have been with the office for many years. Patients enjoy the consistency of seeing familiar faces throughout the office at each visit."

While Morgan Dentistry has grown and changed in its half-century of service, its culture and environment has not. "Our goal has always been to provide the best dentistry possible in a comfortable and safe office. We are fortunate to have trained employees with the same attitude that have been a part of our office for more than 20 — and in some cases 30 — years!" Dr. Mark calculated.

Dr. Mark and Dr. Sarah Key are the two dentists serving Morgan Dentistry. Dr. Mark is a 1985 graduate of Waxahachie High School, a 1989 graduate of Texas A&M University and a 1993 graduate of UT Health School of Dentistry, San Antonio. Dr. Mackey was also a Texas A&M graduate in 1963, then graduated UT Health School of Dentistry, Houston in 1967. Dr. Sarah Key graduated from University of Georgia in 2014 and University of Louisville Dental School in 2019.

Working with 11 additional staff members that comprise the dental team, Morgan Dentistry offers general dental services, including cleanings, checkups, fillings, crowns, bridges, implants, root canals, tooth extraction, bleaching and veneers. The staff members are also no stranger to serving the community outside the dental office. "Staff members spend time biweekly assisting Waxahachie Care in creating food packages for distribution," Dr. Mark praised. "We also donate monetarily to various charities in the community, Waxahachie school organizations and booster clubs, as well as volunteer for organized dental charity events where dental services are provided at no cost to individuals in need."

If Morgan Dentistry's longstanding tradition of care and service to the area is not enough, Dr. Mark hints at more to come: "There is a third-generation Morgan interested in joining the dental practice," he noted. **NOW**

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Email the page numbers and
specific ads where they are
found, plus your contact
information and phone
number, by October 15th.
To ensure your Scavenger Hunt
answers go in the drawing,
you must use the

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scavenger.nec@nowmagazines.com

WIN!

\$50 Cash Prize

Courtesy of:

NOW Magazines

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Winner must pick up prize
within 30 days of drawing.

Paperclips were found on
pages 5, 6, 11, 12, 30

September winner is:
Kristina Lovick-Walton - \$50
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CookingNOW *In the Kitchen With* SHANE CROFT

— By Virginia Riddle

Shane Croft started cooking as a child. “I grew up in a single-parent home in Midlothian,” he said. “My mother wasn’t always there to cook due to being at work, so I learned to cook from my mother and grandparents. My grandfather taught me the majority of what I know about cooking with a wood fire,” he added. The owner of East Texas Barbeque Company, Shane also works at Martin Marietta full time.

Having mastered grilling and smoking, Shane enjoys taking new recipes, adding ingredients, changing cooking techniques and making the recipes his own. “I love to eat, travel and enjoy doing anything outside, from hunting to hiking,” he remarked. “Cooking, especially during the holidays, is the perfect way to join family and friends together.” **NOW**

Jerk Chicken Rasta Pasta

2 4-oz. chicken breasts
4 Tbsp. Walkerswood Jerk Seasoning (divided use)
1 Tbsp. browning sauce
1 Tbsp. thyme, fresh or dried leaves
1 tsp. olive oil
1/3 green bell pepper, sliced

1/3 red bell pepper, sliced
1/3 orange bell pepper, sliced
1/3 cup green onion, chopped
2 garlic cloves, chopped
3 cups heavy whipping cream
2 cups Parmesan and mozzarella, freshly grated
1 tsp. paprika
1 tsp. Old Bay Seasoning

Salt, to taste

Pepper, to taste

1 16-oz. pkg. Barilla Mezze Penne Pasta,
cooked according to pkg. directions
Garlic bread

1. Rub the chicken breasts with 3 tsp. of jerk seasoning; place the chicken in a Ziploc bag.
2. Add the browning sauce and thyme. Coat well; refrigerate to marinate for at least 4 hours.
3. Smoke the chicken at 250 F until it reaches an internal temperature of 165 F.
4. The sauce can be made ahead of time or while the chicken is smoking. In a large skillet, add the olive oil. Add the peppers and onion; sauté over medium heat for 5-6 minutes.
5. Add the garlic; sauté an additional 2 minutes. Add the heavy cream; bring the sauce to a slow boil while stirring.
6. Stir in the cheese. Add the paprika, Old Bay and 1 tsp. jerk seasoning; stir.
7. Cook for 5 minutes; add the salt and

pepper. Add the pasta and a thinly sliced chicken breast; toss the pasta and chicken, coating it well with the sauce.

8. Pour the chicken and pasta onto a serving platter; top with the remaining sliced chicken breast. Serve with garlic bread.

Grilled Lobster Tail

4 lobster tails, washed

4 Tbsp. East Texas Barbeque Company
Honey Chipotle Rub

1 stick Kerrygold Garlic & Herb Butter,
melted

1. Using kitchen shears, split the top of the shells down the middle; use fingers to separate the meat from the shell, leaving it attached at the bottom.

2. Rest the meat on the shell tops; season all meat sides with the rub.

3. Place the seasoned shells/meat on a preheated grill at 300 F; cook to an internal temperature of 145 F. Baste with butter while cooking.

Fresh Apple Cake

Note: This cake can be served warm or at room temperature. It crumbles less when cooled.

2 cups sugar

3 cups flour

1 tsp. baking soda

1 tsp. salt

1 heaping tsp. cinnamon

3 cups tart apples, peeled and chopped

2 eggs

2 tsp. vanilla

1 1/2 cups canola oil

1 cup pecans or walnuts, chopped

1. Grease a Bundt pan; in a bowl, mix all ingredients with a spoon.

2. Pour the batter into the pan; bake at 350 F for 1 hour, or add 15 minutes if a crisper crust is desired.

3. Cool the cake for 10 minutes; flip it onto a serving plate.

BBQ Rub

1 cup dark brown sugar

1/2 cup paprika

3 1/2 Tbsp. course black pepper

1 1/2 tsp. chili powder

1 1/2 Tbsp. garlic powder

1 1/2 Tbsp. onion powder

1 tsp. cayenne pepper

2 Tbsp. kosher salt

1. In a bowl, combine the brown sugar and paprika; mix well with a fork, removing clumps.

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23RD MUSIC: JADE FLORES 3:30-5:30 PM

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2. Add the remaining ingredients; mix well. Store in an air-tight container or Mason jar.

Beef Tenderloin

3-5 lbs. beef tenderloin
4 Tbsp. East Texas Barbeque Company White Lightning Rub
4 Tbsp. East Texas Barbeque Texas Mojo Rub
4 Tbsp. Kerrygold Garlic & Herb Butter

1. Trim all the silver skin off the tenderloin; either roll the smaller end under and tie or trim the smaller end to make the tenderloin proportioned.
2. Wearing gloves, season with the White

Lightning Rub; allow the tenderloin to set a few minutes before applying the Texas Mojo Rub.

3. Place the tenderloin in a smoker; smoke at 250 F until an internal temperature of 125 F in the thickest part is reached.
4. Remove the tenderloin from the smoker. Wrap it in foil with 4 pats of butter; allow the tenderloin to rest for 30 minutes.

Jerked Shrimp Tacos

Tacos:

1 lb. shrimp, peeled and deveined
Wooden skewers
1 12.25-oz. bottle Great Value Caribbean-Style Jerk Marinade

2 Tbsp. Walkerswood Jerk Seasoning
1 pkg. Mission Street Tacos Yellow Corn Tortillas

Mango Avocado Salsa:

1 mango, peeled and diced
1 avocado, diced
1 jalapeño, diced (Remove seeds for less heat.)
1/4 cup purple onion, diced
1/4 cup cilantro, chopped
Juice of 1 lime
1/2 tsp. celery salt

1. For tacos: Place the shrimp on skewers, using two skewers, one for each side; place the skewers in a large Ziploc bag.
2. Add 1/2 to 3/4 of the marinade bottle and the jerk seasoning to the bag. Toss well; marinate for 2 hours.
3. On a grill or over charcoal, bring the temperature to 350 F. Remove the shrimp from the bag; shake off any excess marinade before placing the skewers on the grill.
4. Cook to a 145 F internal temperature. Don't let the marinade's sugar burn.
5. Remove the skewers from the grill; warm the tortillas.
6. For salsa: In a bowl, combine all ingredients; fold carefully so the avocado isn't mashed.
7. Assemble the tacos; top with the salsa.



Jerked Shrimp Tacos



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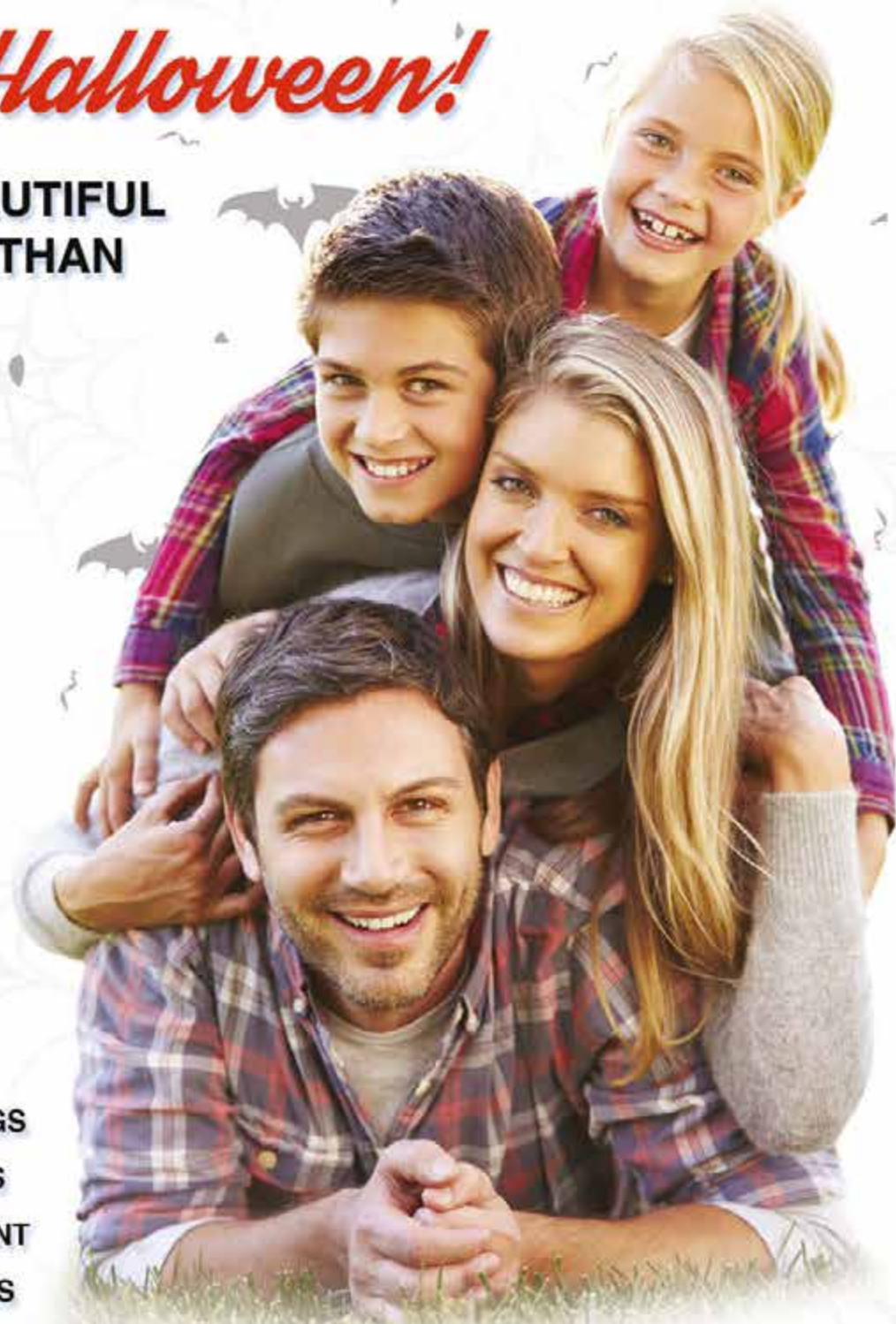
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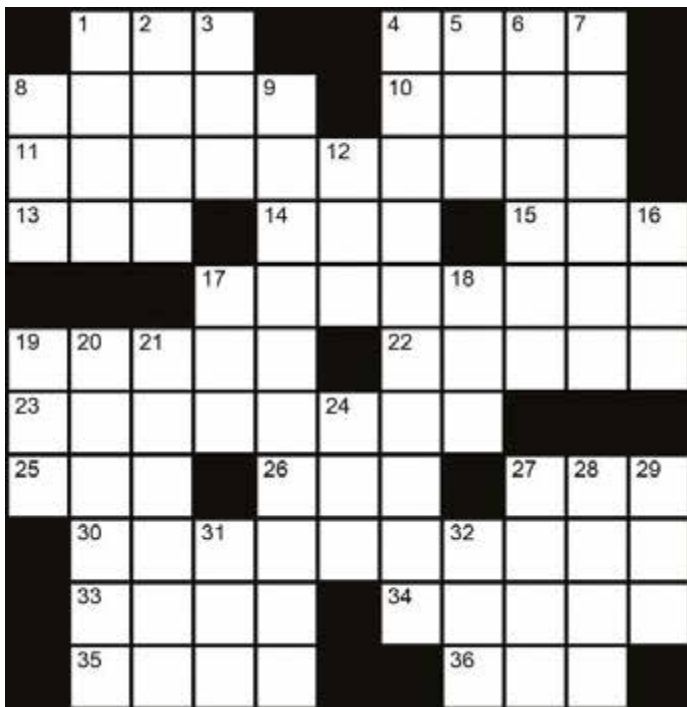
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Crossword Puzzle



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Across

- 1 Swivel joint?
- 4 Old you
- 8 Rattle on about nothing in particular
- 10 Wreck
- 11 On the fritz
- 13 Cushion under a saddle
- 14 Horseplay
- 15 Gaping mouth
- 17 Capital on the Congo
- 19 Quarrel
- 22 Turnpike sections
- 23 "You could say that"
- 25 Brooch
- 26 Wrestling area
- 27 Free
- 30 Show signs of interest
- 33 "New World" symphony key
- 34 Cow's stomach
- 35 Place in the House
- 36 Every river has one

Down

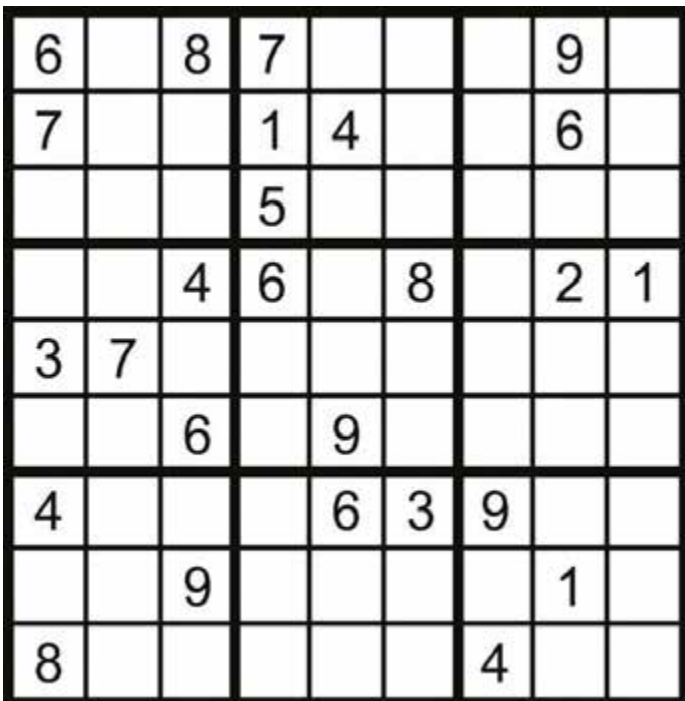
- 1 Tennis champion --- Mandlikova
- 2 Mobile music machine
- 3 Soda
- 4 Interpreter
- 5 From which spokes radiate
- 6 Crude worker
- 7 Discomfort
- 8 Big wheel
- 9 Civility
- 12 "Logan's ---" (1976 movie)
- 16 Used to be
- 17 Flesh and blood
- 18 Hit this at night
- 19 Gravestone letters
- 20 Consolidates
- 21 Generic
- 24 Pasty
- 27 Frosty coating
- 28 Hit
- 29 Cozy room
- 31 --- Ora (Maori greeting)
- 32 Stout roomy boat

Solutions on page 28

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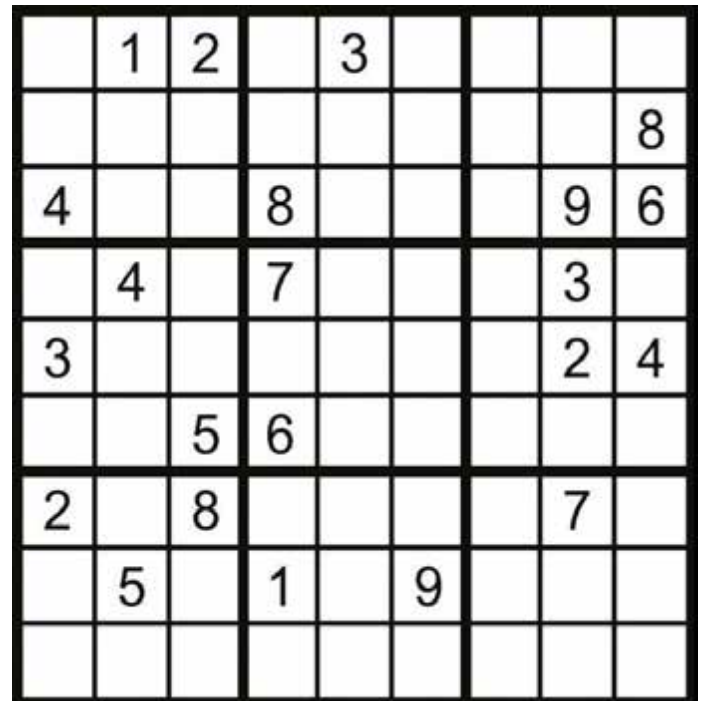
Sudoku Puzzle

Easy



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Medium



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Solutions on page 28

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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.

10/3-10/31

Pumpkin Patch:

This event will be held **Monday-Friday:** 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. and **Saturday-Sunday:** 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., First United Methodist Church Red Oak, 600 Daubitz Drive. Learn more at www.fumcro.org or call (972) 617-9100.

10/10

Rise Up In Prayer:

Featuring pastors and prayer warriors, this free Ellis County event promotes unity and reconciliation, encouraging healing in the hearts and minds of everyone regardless of race, faith or politics. 6:00-8:00 p.m.,

Lumpkins Stadium, 200 Indian Dr., Waxahachie. Learn more at ChristiansRiseUp.net.

10/16

Walk-a-thon:

Benefiting Ellis County Homeless Coalition, the event features booths, food trucks and live music, along with walking on nearby trails. 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Railyard Park, 455 S. College St., Waxahachie. Email Rhonda.miller@elliscountyhomeless.com for more information or call (469) 428-7320.

The Great Gatsby Gala:

Red Oak Chamber of Commerce annual dinner and

auction. 6:00-9:00 p.m., 200 Lakeview Pkwy. Email admin@redoakchamber.org or call (972) 617-0906 for more details.

10/23

Texas Country

Reporter Festival:

Enjoy arts, crafts and music from far and wide at the 25th annual festival with more than 250 booths and two food courts. Free. 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., Courthouse Square, Waxahachie.

Tuesdays

Children's Virtual Story Time:

The library may be closed, but stories, songs and more are still happening on Facebook [@redoaktx.org](https://www.facebook.com/redoaktx.org). 10:00-10:30 a.m. For more details, message librarian@redoaktx.org.

Third Saturdays

Mobile Food Pantry:

Drive-through food distribution for local families in need. 9:00-11:00 a.m. (while supplies last), First Red Oak Church, 320 E. Ovilla Rd. Email info@firstredoak.com to learn more.

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




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Health
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An Important HEALTH WARNING for Men and Women Age 55 or Older!

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Dear Suffering Friend:

Tens of millions Americans have nerve damage — a condition known as “neuropathy.”

The most common symptoms of nerve damage are pain, burning, tingling, and loss of feeling in your feet, legs, and fingers — with the pain ranging from mild to almost unbearable.

If you are diabetic, and especially if you are also age 60 or older, odds are that your nerve damage has been caused directly by your diabetes — although many younger diabetics also have nerve damage from this potentially deadly disease.

But many OTHER people with these symptoms — pain, burning, and tingling — are NOT diabetic, yet also suffer from nerve damage.

According to the Mayo Clinic, the many diseases and conditions that can destroy the nerves in your extremities and limbs include:

- | | | |
|------------------------|--|------------------|
| ✓ Alcoholism | ✓ Repetitive motions such as typing | ✓ Chemotherapy |
| ✓ Autoimmune diseases | ✓ Bone marrow disorders | ✓ Tumors |
| ✓ Vitamin deficiencies | ✓ Certain prescription medications | ✓ Infections |
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Easy

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