Weatherfore G October 2<u>021</u> Cultivating Color With peafowl, the Drenth family operates a unique farm Also inside: Crossword/Sudoku In the Kitchen With Featured Business: Shane Snider First Bank Texas Postal CustomerECHM28 EDDW



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CULTIVATING COLOR

Two local referees spend most of their days tending distinctive animals.

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ON THE COVER

Mother and son team up to take on sports and peafowl.

Photo by

Constance O'Bryan.

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Subscriptions are available at the rate of \$35 per year or \$3.50 per issue. Subscriptions should be sent to: NOW Magazines, P.O. Box 1071, Waxahachie, TX 75168. For advertising rates or editorial correspondence, call (817) 613-1533 or visit www.nowmagazines.com.

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Happy fall!

When I drive between Granbury and Weatherford, I love this time of year. As the month progresses, more hints of red, orange and yellow dot the trees along the road. Familiar scents fill the air that whisper hope for chilly nights and all things common to this season. The winds transform, carrying a slight coolness not there before. Change. Inevitable in every year and every life.

Years ago, I worked for a Fortune 500 corporation. "The only thing constant is change" became our mantra, as the company grew and threw changes at us frequently. I didn't much like those rapid, unexpected transformations in my business world — especially when they came without clarity about personal impact. The small ones, bearable. But the earth-shattering ones? Unable to stop the changes that came from upper management, I learned to keep quiet and still and process through those moments of uncertainty. Finally able to embrace whatever new thing they tossed my direction, I moved forward with everyone else.

As I reflect on that season, I realize the challenges prepared me as an overcomer. We always face uncertainty in life, no matter how much we plan. The ability to embrace change keeps us from losing hope and falling into despair. I still don't love rapid change in my life, but I can embrace it, knowing I have the strength to persevere no matter what I endure. Not every shift in life makes circumstances better. But the ones that do become blessings we never imagined.

May fall bring blessings beyond your expectations!



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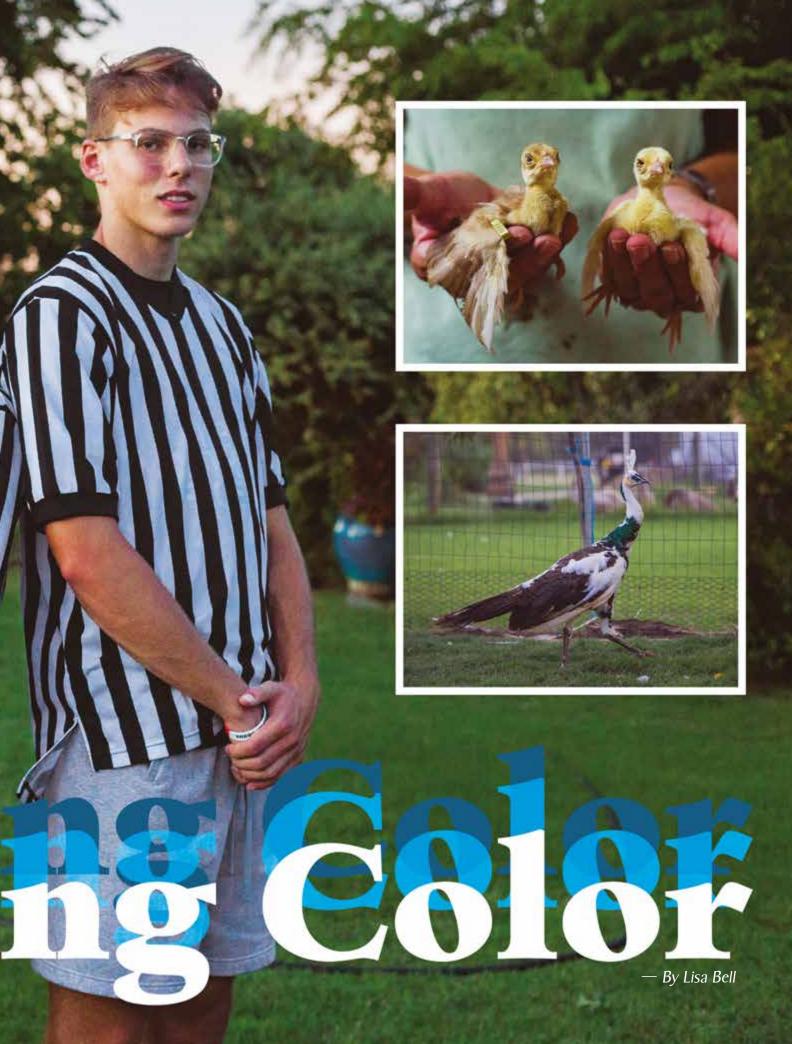
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Sid and Beverly feel that pride more strongly with their children. Besides Noah, they have a daughter, Sam. Married with a 5-year-old son, she currently serves with the United States Army in Fairbanks, Alaska. A Weatherford girl at heart, she grew up barrel racing.

Working full time on the farm, Beverly feeds every bird daily, while Noah takes care of watering them. Sid mows, builds and repairs pens and handles sales of their feathered friends when not working at his job as a salesman in the floral industry. Recently, Noah took on another job to earn more money, but he continues helping with the peafowl.

"When my friends come out, they think it's cool," Noah said. While most high school seniors stay inside with electronics, he enjoys being outdoors and experiencing the unique qualities of their flocks.

In addition, they have a troop of lemurs, which someone gave them, that provide an interesting touch to the farm. Mary, a sheep who doesn't grow wool, adores Noah. "She loves him," Beverly shared. Among their outdoor family, the Drenths also have Ocellated Turkeys from Mexico, two varieties of guinea fowl and a trio of yellowknobbed curassow. The newest addition to the farm includes 4-month-old rheas, a smaller variation of ratites, which they successfully incubated and brooded. A dog, cat and horse share the acreage, but the peafowl by far capture the most attention.

Walking around the property, visitors hear the birds call back and forth, especially during mating season, which usually lasts from February until August.





The males become loud and colorful, flaunting their bright tail feathers to capture a peahen's attention.

They keep several age groups of peafowl in separate pens, ranging from yearlings to breeders. By removing eggs and segregating the younger chicks and birds, the family helps more of the peafowl survive until they grow strong enough to join the older birds. While most of the peacocks live a subdued life, they can become aggressive with other males, so Beverly places them carefully.

But the farm doesn't take up all their spare time. Since Noah began playing basketball at 3 years old, Beverly made it a point to attend all his games. She started a referee career at WISD Community Education with Carla Stone. At one game, she saw a sign asking, "Wanna ref?" After meeting Becky Ramirez of iRef, Beverly learned the skills and spends weekends and Thursday nights during school as an official for basketball games. She got Noah interested, and he also works part time as an official. Both choose to stick with the game they know well. "It's truly a brotherhood and sisterhood," Beverly said. "You learn from your partner referees. It's easy money, and a muchneeded break from the farm."

"I enjoy being a referee because I can be around the game even when I'm not playing," Noah shared. As he enters his senior year at Peaster High School, he plans to continue playing basketball. In college, he wants to major in mechanical engineering or attend a trade school for automotive with a future in a premier performance company. A wise young man, he saves most of the money he earns for the future.

"I don't know what we'll do with all the birds after he graduates," Beverly said. "But we'll figure it out then." In the meantime, her life may have gone to the birds, but it keeps her content, challenged and surrounded by color. NOW

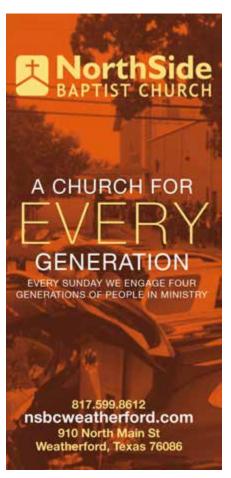
















Zoomed In: Jordan Walker Ross

An actor since the age of 6 and grandson of American actor, Barry Corbin, Jordan Walker Ross takes pride in his role as James the Lesser in *The Chosen*. Much of the first season was filmed in Weatherford's Capernaum Studios. "Being on The Chosen has been a life-changing experience," Jordan shared. Although he loves acting, cerebral palsy and scoliosis cost many roles for the actor. Director Dallas Jenkins chose to use the disabilities as part of one episode.

Jordan also plays the part of La Force in Washington's Armor. A small man, he usually lands parts as a victim or nerdy guy. "Getting to play a snobby French officer is fun," he said. "For a change, I get to pretend like I'm a bad guy."



Capernaum Studio actors interact with visitors during a tour.

Around Town



Ashley Poe shops with her daughters, Cayden and Autumn.

By Lisa Bell



Kristin McLaughlin becomes executive dean of Weatherford College Wise County campus.



Kathy Cunning from Willow Park wins first place for WAA Artist of the Month.



The Hale grandparents enjoy a Labor Day picnic with their Bombardier grandchildren.



The Waters family enjoys time getting outdoors at Chandor Gardens.

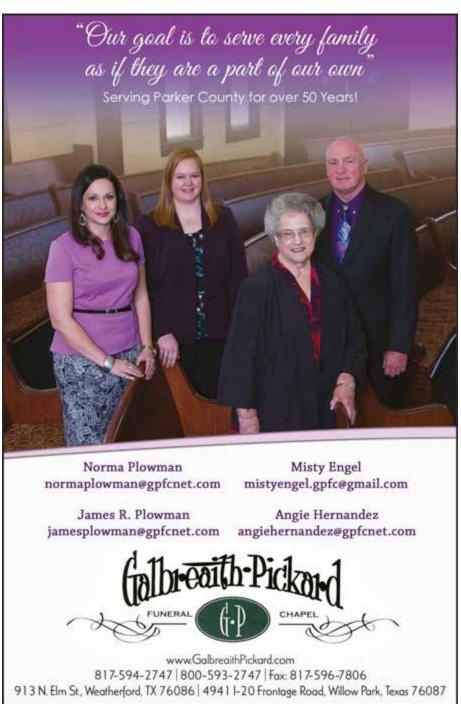


Brandi and Michael Sanford enjoy Family and Friends Night at the new Parker Co. Ice House in Willow Park.



Judge James Spurlock tells Emma Moorman how impressed he is with her Best of Show welded piece.







BusinessNOW

First Bank Texas

- By Lisa Bell

First Bank Texas

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For more than 141 years, customers from Abilene to the mid-cities of the Metroplex relied on First National Bank. The Joe Sharp family owned three bank charters. By merging them under the name of First Bank Texas, they now provide better customer service between the communities where they conduct business. "New name, same bank," assured Evon Markum, executive vice president of marketing & community development.

The bank has locations in Abilene, Baird, Clyde, Munday, Haskell and Stamford in the west. Locations in Weatherford, Hudson Oaks and Willow Park (opening soon), along with those in Bedford and Grapevine also operate under the same charter. In any location, customers find the same service and ability to deal with issues, even if their home bank is in a different town. "The merger makes it more convenient for our customers to do banking business," Evon said. "We're still First."

Besides multiple locations for personal and business accounts, First Bank Texas also offers online and mobile banking, mobile deposit and P2P. One of the first to have a motor bank in the 1960s, they thrive on leading in technology. Soon they will upgrade to ITMs. Evon explained, "Interactive Teller Machines are ATMs on steroids. They will do everything for you but the laundry." Alongside normal transactions, the new technology dispenses currency in any denomination, allows transfers between accounts, accepts loan payments and more. By pushing a button, the customer can talk to a teller during extended hours.

An employee for 18 years, Evon shared that the bank sees generational customers, and several employees have parents or grandparents who worked there in the past. Building relationships remains an important function of employees. They watch for signs of fraud, especially with elderly patrons. Personal interaction helps them spot unusual activity and provides a basis to question the transaction's legitimacy.

First Bank Texas handled many PPP loans during the pandemic, and they now have an in-house mortgage department. They continue making loan decisions at a local level across the board. From larger loans such as commercial developments to small business loans, the officers and employees do their best to assist customers in obtaining the perfect financing.

Part of all revenue returns to the community through donations to multiple local organizations annually, monthly and sometimes on request. As with loan decisions, First Bank Texas determines the organizations and amounts for donations, but they don't stop with money. Allowing employees paid time off, the bank strongly encourages active volunteering and involvement in the community. "Our primary mission isn't banking services. It's furthering the Kingdom," Evon stated. "When you do that, the business takes care of itself."

Chairman of the Board, Zan Prince, supports the merger, emphasizing the seamless experience customers now enjoy from west to east. "Even with the merger, we still have the oldest national bank charter in Texas," she said. "First Bank Texas is a unique group of individuals, committed to each other, customers and the community. We strive to meet financial needs of customers in all seasons of life."

In a bank where customer service often goes above and beyond, they embrace displaying history, art and a welcoming atmosphere. Through relationships, they plan to continue operating for generations to come, welcoming new customers and treasuring existing ones. NOW





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"Good food always brings people together," Shane Snider said. "There's no greater feeling than seeing your friends enjoy something you made." Self-taught with a lot of trial and error, Shane cooks primarily for friends and family, although on occasion, he does small catering projects. "I am a competition steak and barbecue competitor, mostly on the Steak Cookoff Association circuit," he shared. "I recently competed at the SCA World Championship and have qualified for the 2022 championship. I will also be competing at the 2021 World Food Championship in November."

While he prefers the grill for cooking, Shane admitted, "Some days, a good oven is easier." Growing up in Mineral Wells, he has yet to incorporate Crazy Water into a dish. He does like tweaking recipes though. Now

Breakfast Casserole

- 2 lbs. ground pork sausage
- 1 Tbsp. butter
- 1 Tbsp. olive oil
- I cup onion, diced
- I cup bell pepper, diced (red and green mixed)
- I cup mushrooms, sliced
- 10 large eggs
- 2 cups cheese, shredded
- 1 cup sour cream
- 1 Tbsp. hot sauce

Salt, to taste Black pepper, to taste I pkg. crescent roll sheet pastry

- **I.** Brown the sausage over medium heat; drain on paper-towel lined platter. Add the butter and olive oil to the pan; sauté the vegetables until tender.
- **2.** Combine the sausage and vegetables; set aside.
- **3.** In a large bowl, crack the eggs; whisk. Add the cheese, sour cream, hot sauce, salt and pepper; mix well.

- **4.** Spray a 9x11-inch baking pan with nonstick spray; spread the crescent pastry dough on the bottom of the pan. Spread the sausage mixture evenly on the dough; top with the egg mixture.
- **5.** Prepare a smoker or oven to 350 F. Place the casserole in the oven; cook for 1 hour, rotating the pan after 30 minutes for even cooking. Note: When the top is brown and the edges pull slightly away from the pan, the casserole is done.

Crab Stuffed Mushrooms

16 oz. medium portobello mushrooms

1 Tbsp. olive oil

Diced mushroom stems

1/2 cup onion, finely chopped

2 garlic cloves

4 oz. claw or lump crab meat

4 oz. cream cheese, softened

1 egg

1/4 cup breadcrumbs

1/2 cup Parmesan cheese, plus additional for top, freshly grated

1 Tbsp. fresh parsley, minced

1 Tbsp. chives, minced

Salt, to taste

Black pepper, to taste

- **1.** Preheat the oven to 375 F; lightly grease a baking dish.
- 2. Rinse the whole mushrooms under cold water; pat dry with a paper towel. Carefully pop off the mushrooms' stems, right where they connect to the caps. Save the stems. Set aside the caps.
- 3. Preheat a sauté pan and olive oil on medium-high heat. Sauté the diced mushroom stems and diced onion until they start to caramelize. Press the garlic into the onion/mushroom mixture: sauté just until fragrant.
- 4. Place the cooked vegetables into a mixing bowl.
- 5. Sift through the crab meat thoroughly with your fingers to make sure there are no pieces of shells accidentally left behind; add the crab meat to the mixing bowl.
- **6.** Add all the remaining ingredients to the mixing bowl for the filling; mix very well.
- **7.** Set the mushroom caps in a slightly greased baking dish, cup up. Generously fill each cap with the stuffing mixture, pressing down lightly with your finger to fit more.
- **8.** Sprinkle the top of the stuffed mushrooms with grated Parmesan cheese; bake for about 20 minutes (25 minutes for larger mushrooms).

Fried Cheesecake Bombs

17 oz. frozen or leftover cheesecake 1 qt. vegetable oil (divided use) 1 1/4 cups all-purpose flour I tsp. baking powder 1/4 tsp. salt 1/4 cup granulated sugar 1 cup milk Powdered sugar for serving (optional) Strawberry or chocolate sauce for serving (optional)

- 1. Place the cheesecake onto a cutting board; cut into 1 1/2-inch squares. Freeze for at least 15 minutes.
- 2. In a medium saucepan or deep fryer, pour the oil until 2-3 inches deep; heat to 375 F. Set aside a paper-towel lined plate or
- 3. In a medium bowl, whisk together the flour, baking powder, salt and sugar; whisk in the milk and 2 tsp. vegetable oil until smooth.
- **4.** Dip a frozen cheesecake piece into the batter until coated. Shake off the excess; drop into hot oil. Fry for 3 minutes, turning every minute.
- **5.** Remove to prepared plate/rack; repeat with remaining cheesecake pieces in batches of 3-5 at a time.
- 6. Dust with optional sugar and drizzle with optional sauces. Serve warm and enjoy.





Pork Belly Burnt Ends

Pork Belly:

8 lbs. pork belly, skin removed

1/2 cup favorite barbecue rub

1/2 cup brown sugar

1/4 cup honey

1 1/2 sticks butter, sliced

Pork Belly Glaze:

I cup of your favorite sweet barbecue sauce

1/4 cup apple juice

1 Tbsp. Frank's hot sauce

1/4 cup apple jelly

- **1.** For pork belly: Prepare a smoker for indirect cooking at 250 F to 275 F.
- **2.** Remove the pork belly from packaging; cube it into 1 1/2-inch by 1 1/2-inch pieces.
- **3.** Season all sides of the pork belly cubes with your favorite barbecue rub; arrange cubes onto a full-size cooling rack. Place on the smoking grate. Smoke for 2 to 2 1/2 hours.
- **4.** Place the burnt ends into an aluminum pan; cover with brown sugar and honey. Arrange the butter in between the pork belly pieces.
- **5.** Cover the pan with aluminum foil; return



to the smoker for $1 \ 1/2$ hours, or until the pieces are tender.

- **6.** For pork belly glaze: Mix all the ingredients until well blended.
- **7.** Drain the liquid from the pan; add the Pork Belly Glaze to the burnt ends. Toss gently to coat each piece; return to the smoker for 5-10 minutes to set the glaze; serve immediately.

Smoked Queso

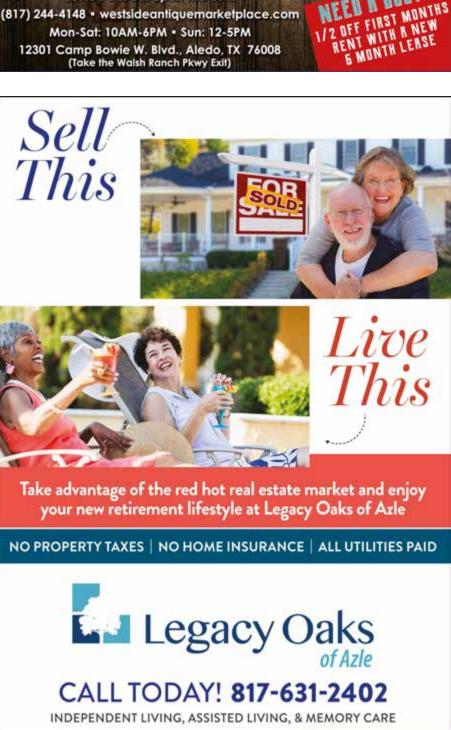
2 lbs. hot breakfast sausage 2 lbs. Velveeta Cheese 16 oz. smoked gouda cheese

- 2 10-oz. cans Ro-Tel tomatoes 1 10.5-oz. can cream of mushroom soup 1/2 cup cilantro, chopped (optional)
- **1.** Cook the sausage over medium heat; drain off fat. Place in a 9x13-inch aluminum pan.
- **2.** Slice the Velveeta into 1-inch slices; cube the gouda to 1-inch squares. Add to the pan. Stir in the Ro-Tel and soup, including the liquid.
- **3.** Place the pan in the oven or smoker; set at 350 F. Cook for 45 minutes to 1 hour, stirring 3-4 times during the cooking time.
- **4.** Top with cilantro if desired; serve warm.









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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
- 20 Consolid
- 21 Generic
- 24 Pasty
- 27 Frosty coating
- 28 Hit
- 29 Cozy room
- 31 --- Ora (Maori greeting)
- 32 Stout roomy boat

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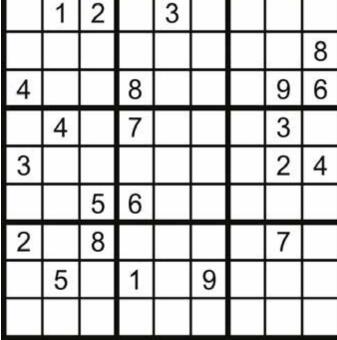
Sudoku Puzzle

Easy

Solutions on page 28

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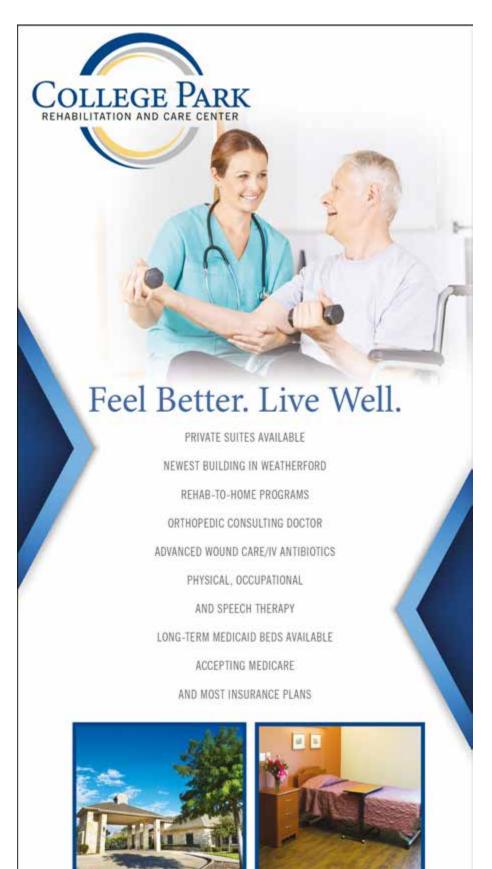
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Children's Advocacy Center of Parker County

Where healing begins, the Children's Advocacy Center of Parker County gives children a voice. They strive to end the cycle of abuse. Coordinating with many agencies, they support children and their caregivers. www.cacparkercounty.org, (682) 615-1992.

Titus 2 Communities

They provide sober living housing in a supportive, Christ-centered environment. Their goal is to help men and women suffering from the terrible fallout of drug and alcohol addiction to stay on their journey of sobriety and to know Jesus Christ. www.titus2communities.org, (817) 382-3453.

Room Redux DFW

Room Redux transforms bedrooms for children who suffered physical or sexual abuse. Because the trauma often happens in their bedroom, it no longer feels safe.

Transformation of that room can help an abused child heal more quickly.

www.roomredux.org,
www.facebook.com/RoomReduxDFW,

(817) 226-6764.

Sanctified Hope

Sanctified Hope empowers and guides formerly incarcerated women through a Christ-based ministry to inspire lifelong changes and become successful citizens of the community. This group partners with Center of Hope and Christ Chapel Bible Church. www.sanctifiedhope.org, (817) 901-5446.

Theatre Off the Square

After many months of remaining dark due to COVID-19, Theatre Off the Square returns as a community theatre group. TOTS is the only regularly scheduled live theater venue in Parker County and relies on participation and donations from the community. They offer fun and sometimes thought-provoking plays. www.theatreoffthesquare.org, (817) 341-8687.

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Crossword Sudoku Solutions

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V	Α	Р	0	°R		10 R	U	1	N	
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Easy

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Medium

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

SLEEP APNEA SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS



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2- Have Brain Fog, Lack of Mental Clarity, Forgetfulness during the day

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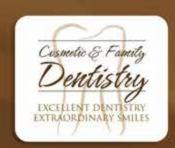
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