Midlothian

OCTOBER 2022

Female Flyer Jerri Faber follows family into flight

The Shoe

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In the Kitchen With Kevin Tobolka Also inside: Scavenger Hunt Crossword/Sudoku Featured Business: Skin Solutions by Shelly

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October 2022 Volume 18, Issue 10

ON THE COVER



A flight scholarship will help Jerri Faber reach for the sky.

Photo by Kobbi R. Blair.

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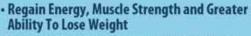
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Baby on board ...

Did you ever take a small child with you through an automatic car wash thinking, *Oh! They're going to love this!* only to have the kiddo cry and scream throughout the entire wash as you tried to soothe them saying, "But the car really likes getting a bath! Don't cry! Look at the pretty soap colors! Please don't cry! Just another minute, and we'll see sunshine! For the love of Goldfish crackers, *please stop crying!*"?

I feel like this is one of those parenting fails a lot of us experience, or at least that's what I tell myself. Because even though my son is a young man now, I *still* feel guilty about what has come to be known as the "not-so-Magic Suds-moment of 2004." So, car washes became locations *non grata* for a couple years until one day my toddler son said, "Hey, Mom! Remember that time we went through the car wash? Wasn't that *fun*?"

Me, turning red, with veins throbbing on my temples, "Are? You? Kidding? Me? Did your father put you up to saying that? You *know* I apologize every time we pass the Magic Suds!"

(Side note: Yes, my toddler did already speak in complete sentences. A friend of mine still razzes me because she heard me tell my then 1-year-old son who was upset about something: "Use your words if you want people to understand."

Friend: "Did you just tell your I-year-old to, 'Use his words?""

Me: "What? He has words. Just not a lot of them.")

The moral of the story, if there is one, is that we parents are always learning as we go. Fortunately, children are very forgiving. And even Magic Suds memories can make us all laugh ... eventually.

Enjoy the ride!

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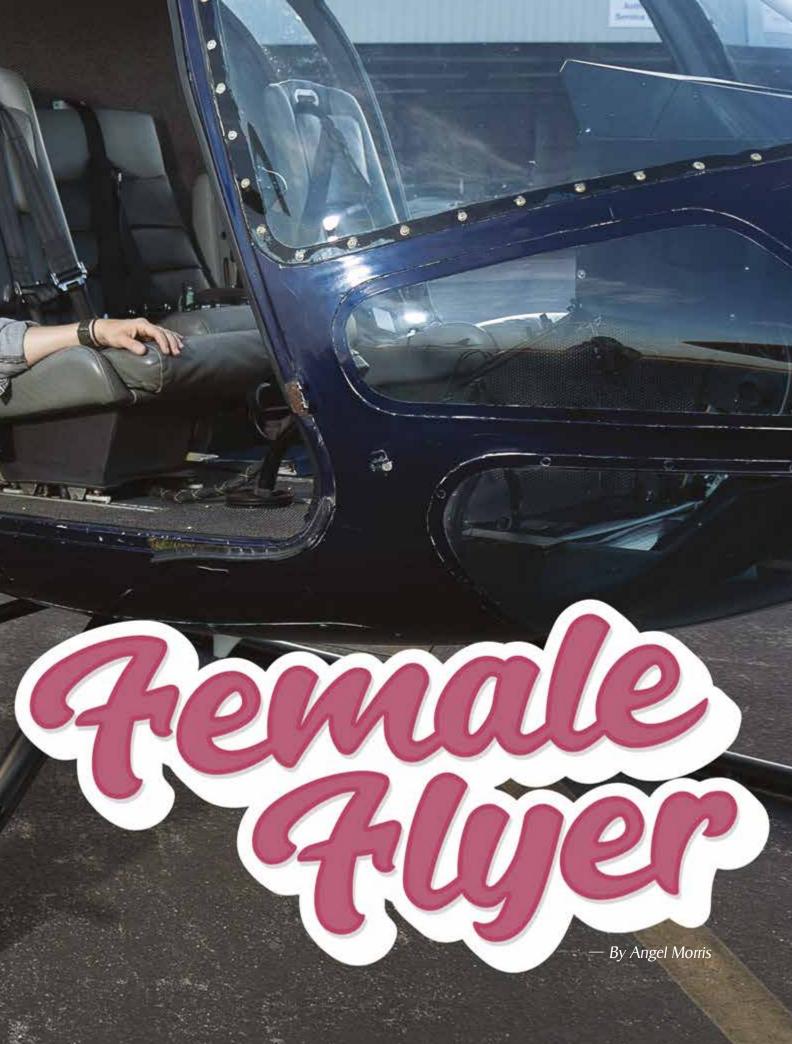


It wasn't long after the Wright brothers made their famous first 12-second flight in 1903 that women joined the aviation field. Bessica Raiche made the first accredited solo flight by an American female in 1910, with Harriet Quimby becoming the first American female to earn her pilot's license in 1911.

In 1921, Ellis County's own Bessie Coleman broke racial barriers as the first African-American female to earn a pilot's license, followed by the first woman of Chinese ancestry, Katherine Cheung, who earned her private pilot's license in 1932. Anne Morrow Lindbergh, Phoebe Fairgrave Omlie and Willa Brown are a few more women groundbreakers in early female aviation, respectively becoming the first U.S. woman glider pilot, the first woman transport pilot and the first African-American commercial pilot and first African-American woman officer in the Civil Air Patrol.

These trailblazers laid the foundation for women to fly in wars, and, later, in space. Midlothian resident Jerri Faber has her own history in the field. "My family has a long history in aviation. My grandpa, who has since passed, was a pilot. My dad, my uncles, brothers and several cousins are pilots. Their careers started through the military," Jerri outlined. "I had pursued different career options but had always thought about flying. I finally made a career change into aviation at the age of 29."

In 2012, Jerri earned her Bachelor of Science degree from Texas Tech University with concentrations in animal science, business and exercise science. "After graduating college, I continued to train and groom performance horses part time. I'd worked with Arabian horses since I was a kid," Jerri recollected. "To maintain enough income, I also worked as a veterinary technician at a small animal clinic."





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In 2017, Jerri acquired a full-time horse training job in Dallas-Fort Worth. She moved to Midlothian in 2019, where she began flight training, leading to her current job as line service manager with Southern Star Aviation. "I provide ramp service to any inbound aircraft, as well as aircraft hangared on the field, such as parking and fueling. We ensure quality fuel is being received, and we maintain the fuel farm tanks as well as the fuel trucks," Jerri outlined.

Recently, Jerri won a helicopter discovery flight scholarship from the organization Girls Love To Fly and will receive 1.5 hours of ground instruction and one hour of dual instruction in a Hughes 269C training helicopter at Frankfort Municipal Airport in Indiana. "I was thrilled! I mean who wouldn't be, right? I couldn't stop talking about it. I told all my friends and family," Jerri recalled.

Jerri hopes the \$500 scholarship will springboard her transition from fixedwing into rotary-wing flying. "Long term, I am interested in transporting patients for a medevac company because I think that would be very rewarding, but I would like to start as a certified flight instructor," she noted. "With my flight instructor certificate, I would be in a position to mentor young people, sharing my knowledge with those who have the same interests and similar goals."

For those interested in learning more about flight training, Jerri explained that people typically begin instruction in airplanes as those are most readily available. "You start with dual instruction in the airplane as well as ground instruction. In a surprisingly short amount of time, you are flying solo as a student pilot. After some solo time, you hone your skills by navigating cross





country (greater than 50 nautical miles)," Jerri outlined. "Your instructor hops in with you again to fine tune your skills. You take your check ride, and then you are able to fly with friends and family as a private pilot."

Jerri hopes someday to be the kind of flight instructor she saw in her own father. "My dad flew a bomber in the Air Force, but at one point he was also an instructor pilot. He has always talked about some of the other instructors having trouble with students and, more often than not he said, 'Hey, give those guys to me."' Jerri recalled. "He understood everyone is different, and because he was a good instructor, he produced good pilots. Like my instructors now, he cared about producing good pilots. I'm extremely lucky to have my instructors, and I hope to someday be as good as them."

For now, Jerri is excited to continue to spread her wings in what she has come to consider the family business. "I have attended many flight training events for both of my brothers, as they are active pilots in the Air Force and have been for many years," she reflected. "In 2019, my brother had finished his B-course for the F-15, and while attending his graduation I thought, *Well, I could do this.* I'm not sure why it took me so long!"

Nevertheless, it seems Jerri is on her way now. "It really does take a village. Without the support of my family and friends I would not be able to do what I do," Jerri admitted. "They say, 'A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.' I'm on my path putting one foot in front of the other. I don't know exactly where it will end, but I am enjoying the journey."

Historical Sources:

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 https://www.faa.gov.







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Pounding hooves, fast horses and a break in the crowd as horses and riders came into the final stretch — that was Willie Shoemaker's world for most of his life. Also known as William Lee Shoemaker, Bill Shoemaker and "The Shoe," Willie knew how to get the best out of his thoroughbred mounts throughout his 40-plus years "in the irons" as one of the most winning jockeys and trainers in the world. He rode 8,833 winning horses, setting a world record that held until 1999. He won the Breeders' Cup Classic and 11 races in the Triple Crown series, though the Triple Crown itself eluded him. He won each of the three races in the Triple Crown multiple times — two Preakness Stakes, five Belmont Stakes and four Kentucky Derbies — but he never won all three in the same season. However, his beginnings were humble. Born in 1931 in an adobe shack on his grandfather's ranch near Fabens, Texas, Willie's seemingly effortless riding style began to be honed while riding across the ranch's El Paso/Rio Grande area landscape.

The doctor who delivered Willie didn't think the 1 pound, 13-ounce tiny infant would survive, but Willie's grandmother created an incubator by wrapping him in a warmed blanket and placing him on a pillow near a warm oven. Life was hard for Willie's family during those Depression Era days, so he lived with several relatives as they came and went at the ranch. Willie's job, by age 6, was to ride a horse to pick up the mail. At age 10, he and his family, like so many other families of that time, moved to California looking for work, and he discovered horse racing.

By age 14, a school classmate had suggested that the diminutive Willie might be just the right size to become a jockey. He was strong and was known for not losing matches on his school's wrestling and boxing teams. So, he secured a job at the Suzy Q Ranch and quit school, earning \$75 a month. By age 16, he had become an exercise rider at the Bay Meadows track in San Mateo, California, learning from trainer Hurst Philpot and jockey, Johnny Adams, a future Hall of Famer. Willie's first race as a jockey was in 1949 at Golden Gate Fields. He won the race, which netted him \$120, the first dollars leading to a lifetime earnings of more than \$123 million. He led in the amount of dollars in purses earned in a single year 10 times.

Size wise, Willie at full height/weight was only 4 feet 11 inches tall and 98 pounds. Other assets were his even temper,

calm disposition and his remarkable understanding of horses. Horse breeder Rex Ellsworth was quoted in the *Los Angeles Times* as saying, "When a horse was doing his best, Shoe left him alone. When a horse loafed, Shoe would get after him. I never worried when Shoe rode one of my horses, because I knew he'd do a perfect job." In 1959, Willie was inducted into the National Racing Museum and Hall of Fame.

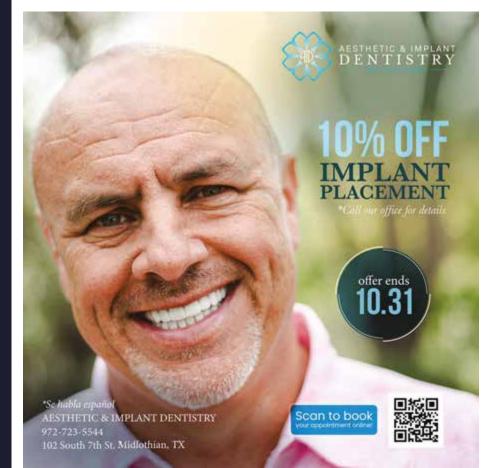
His riding career was, as is usually the case with jockeys, riddled with small injuries, but in 1968, Willie broke his thigh when the horse he was riding fell on him. The doctor used a childsized metal pin to repair the damage. After physical therapy for 13 months, he returned to winning races. In 1969, he was thrown and survived a broken pelvis, ruptured bladder and temporary paralysis of his left leg, only to return to racing and winning for the next 20 years. In 1981, Willie rode John Henry, and together, horse and rider won the Arlington Million, the first million-dollar stake thoroughbred race.

At age 54, in 1986, Willie rode a long shot horse, Ferdinand, in the Kentucky Derby, Ferdinand won, and Willie became the oldest jockey to win the Derby after having been one of the youngest years before to win that famed race. In 1990, Willie made a farewell tour of U.S. racetracks. He retired from riding to become a trainer, even after he became a wheelchair bound quadriplegic following an automobile accident in 1991. Willie retired as a trainer in 1997 after he faced the reality that he couldn't totally know the horses anymore without riding them, and the physical demands were becoming too much for him. He passed away in 2003, survived by a daughter from his third marriage. NOW

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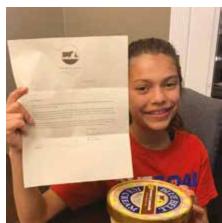


Zoomed In: By Angel Morris Tater Beard and Todd Hemphill

Tater Beard and Todd Hemphill are the dynamite personalities behind the TnT broadcast on Panther Radio. "I'd been going around the state as a rodeo announcer and did a show covering Ellis County sports. Todd was a longtime school board member and a sports advocate," Tater explained. "MISD asked if we'd be interested in a production about school teams."

Tater covered Midlothian High for about 10 years, and Todd handled Heritage High for two before connecting five years ago for combined coverage. Folks can listen to MHS radio on Mixlr or Panther Radio on Facebook and Twitter. "Last year, we broadcasted more than 100 competitions," Tater calculated. "There's nothing better than seeing a student reach their goals in whatever they compete. Whether it's athletics, band, cheer, culinary arts ... we are fans of them all."

Around Town



Madelyn Cardenas shows a letter from Blue Bell Ice Cream thanking her for her flavor suggestion that was put into production by the company this summer.



Jalon Free and Luke George participate in the weekly Wednesday cornhole games at The After Church.



Methodist Health System Chief Executive Officer Jim Scoggin and Chief Nursing Executive Jolyn Angus join the team at Methodist Midlothian for an open house of the new cardiac cath lab.



Joanna Bristow, Tammy Beck, Tami Carter, Christina Miller and Donnelle Cuellar enjoy a night around town at Porch Pour, Big D's BBQ and Union 28.

NOW



Samantha and Cody Aos of Midlothian, visit the Sturgis Pretzel Bakery in Lititz, Pennsylvania, founded in 1861.



Melissa Shook, from the Midlothian Chamber, and Aaron Cox, of Higginbotham Brothers, enjoy the store's first food truck Friday featuring Cousins Maine Lobster.



Dave Corley shares '70s and '80s music with guests at the Midlothian Senior Activity Center.



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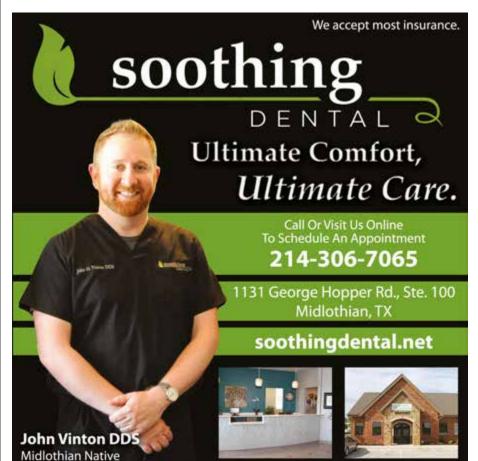
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Shelly Dixon instills HydraFacial's motto, "Face life, face first," through her business, Skin Solutions by Shelly, which offers exceptional skin care through services provided inside Midlothian's Envy Aesthetics. Shelly has been a licensed aesthetician for almost 20 years, working in "all things fashion, skin, nutrition and fitness. I worked in the cosmetic industry prior and during my time in aesthetic school. Those years proved to be a great foundation for my career journey," Shelly recalled.

Shelly's aesthetic career began in an independently owned spa, where she grew her skill set and learned the business from all sides. "I transitioned into the medical side of aesthetics, working several years for a well-known Mansfield dermatologist," Shelly noted.

Having gained additional valuable experience, Shelly pursued her dream of opening her own skin-care spa. Locating to Midlothian in 2021, Skincare by Shelly uses high-quality products to help clients achieve their skin goals through a variety of facial services.

As a Certified HydraFacial Master, Shelly's offerings begin with the Signature HydraFacial, to deeply cleanse and hydrate the skin through super serums of antioxidants, peptides and hyaluronic acid. The Deluxe HydraFacial adds to those services, also addressing specific skin concerns, including neck and chest. "This treatment includes LED Light Therapy to further reduce the visible signs of aging and is customized for every skin type," Shelly explained. Next, the Platinum HydraFacial is the ultimate HydraFacial experience. Building on the other facial services, the Platinum package includes a customized booster and begins skin's detoxification process with lymphatic drainage.

Lymphatic treatments can be partnered with other facials, or they can be done alone, using a gentle suction device applied in a specialized directional method to manually massage and drain lymph nodes. "Lymphatic drainage with HydraFacial can improve circulation, detoxify, tone and firm skin," Shelly noted.

Along with waxing, other services offered include dermaplaning — a procedure that exfoliates skin and gets rid of dirt and "peach fuzz" using a dermatome tool — and HydraFacial Keravive treatments to deeply cleanse and hydrate the scalp. Also, the Osmosis RevitaPen Nano-Infusion Facial treats fine lines, wrinkles, scarring and pigmentation, while Eye Perk and Lip Perk treatments hydrate and revitalize the face based on a client's specific needs. All of Shelly's treatments can be enhanced with the use of Osmosis Beauty products, which are sold in the spa.

"This is a pharmaceutical-grade professional skin-care collection with clinically proven, patented ingredients," Shelly shared. "Products address issues of inflammation, digestion, blemishes, redness, eczema, volume loss, even mood and sleep. These products were inspired by the skin-body connection and formulated to bring balance and restore health to one's entire body."

Skincare by Shelly also sells IMAGE Skincare products, a brand of "smart botanicals and proven ingredients." From cleansers and illuminators to exfoliators, repair and restoration creams, IMAGE products are "clean, clinical" products.

Clients share their glowing reviews on Shelly's website, where they encourage others to book with Shelly for the "best, most relaxing and skilled" skin experiences. "One of the greatest rewards is the never-ending advancement of knowledge and modalities that we can use to change people's skin and touch their lives in a positive way," Shelly admitted. "You only get one chance for a first impression, and your skin is your first impression. My goal is to help you achieve the results that make you look and feel your best. I look forward to meeting your skin!"







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Kevin Tobolka truly believes that the way to a person's heart is through their belly. "My inspiration for cooking comes from my mom and our Cajun heritage," he said. In addition to Cajun food, he loves barbecue and grilling. "Garlic is, by far, God's given spice to man! You'll be hard pressed to find one of my recipes that doesn't have it."

Kevin loves finding recipes on YouTube, and creates his own dishes. He used his gumbo recipe, in 2017, on *MasterChef.* He mainly cooks for his wife, and he loves to teach his kids how to work in the kitchen. Though he's been cooking since high school, his careers have been as an aviation maintenance technician and now as the owner of The Insurance Shack. Now

Tomato Basil Soup

- 2 14.5-oz. cans diced tomatoes
- 1/2 red onion
- 1 Tbsp. minced garlic
- Handful fresh basil leaves, stems removed
- 1 15-oz. can tomato sauce
- 2 14.5-oz. cans chicken broth
- I pt. heavy whipping cream, used as needed

Salt, to taste Pepper, to taste I heaping Tbsp. sugar Garlic powder, to taste

 In a food processor, add the diced tomatoes, onion, garlic and basil. Puree all of this into a nice blended mixture.
 Pour into a 6-qt. stew pot; place on medium-high heat. Add the tomato sauce and chicken broth; bring to a slow boil. **3.** Once the sauce is boiling, start adding whipping cream slowly, while stirring. Keep adding cream and reducing until you reach the desired consistency. Let it slow simmer for a bit. Add the salt and pepper; a bit more pepper is good, but don't over salt. Add sugar and garlic powder; keep tasting and adding until the flavor is right.

Southern Cajun Chicken Gumbo

- I-2 cups canola oil
 I-2 cups flour
 4 chicken thighs
 4 drumsticks
 I red onion
 4 stalks celery
 I green bell pepper
 I yellow bell pepper
 I red bell pepper
 I cup okra
 I/4 cup jalapeños
- Chicken broth

Salt, to taste Black pepper, to taste Basil, to taste Oregano, to taste Zatarain's Creole Seasoning, to taste Minced garlic, to taste I Tbsp. brown sugar (optional)

I. In a skillet, on medium heat, add the oil. While the oil is heating, slowly add the flour, stirring constantly to make a roux. The flour will start to brown. You want it dark brown, but don't let it burn. Remove it from the heat; set aside.

2. In a stock pot, boil all the chicken. Once it is well boiled, pour off the hot water; refill the pot with cold water. Once the chicken is cooled, remove it from the water; skin and debone. Shred; set aside.

3. Cut all the vegetables, including the jalapeños, into small pieces.

4. Add all the vegetables and the chicken to the stock pot. It should be between 1/4and 1/2 full. Add chicken broth to cover, and then some. Cook on medium heat. Once you see steam, add the roux, a little at a time, until the desired thickness is achieved. Add all the seasonings, except the brown sugar, a little at a time until you like the flavor. Let it boil for a bit: taste to adjust seasonings. If it's too strong or too spicy, add the brown sugar to neutralize and smooth out the flavor. Allowing it to sit overnight lets the flavors develop even more. Note: Wild duck, sausage or seafood can be substituted for the chicken. (If using shrimp, do not add until just before cooking is finished.)

Remoulade Sauce

1/2 to 1 cup mayonnaise
1 Tbsp. Dijon mustard
1 Tbsp. fine horseradish sauce
Small squeeze ketchup (optional)
Splash lemon juice
1 tsp. garlic powder
1 tsp. cayenne
1 tsp. file powder
Worcestershire sauce, to taste

 Add the first 8 ingredients to a bowl; mix. Add splashes of Worcestershire sauce.
 Cover; place in the refrigerator. Let sit for a minimum of 4 hours.

Seafood or Shrimp Enchiladas

1/2 red onion, diced
1/2 cup cherry tomatoes, quartered
1/2 cup mushrooms, cut up
1 heaping Tbsp. minced garlic
1/2 stick butter



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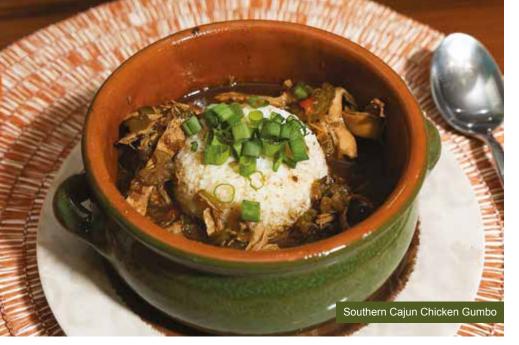
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Salt, to taste

Pepper, to taste

Cumin, to taste

Tajín Seasoning, to taste

1 Tbsp. starch or flour

1/2 cup white Sangria

1/4 cup sour cream

Soft flour tortillas

4 oz. whipped cream cheese

1/2 cup small sweet corn

1 to $1 \frac{1}{2}$ cups heavy whipping cream

I lb. cooked shrimp and/or lump crab Shredded Mexican cheese blend, to taste

Preheat the oven to 350 F. In a large saucepan, sauté the onions, cherry tomatoes, mushrooms, garlic and butter.
 While sautéing, add the salt, pepper, cumin and Tajín Seasoning. Go slow with this; season to taste. You can always add but never take away.
 Once soutéed, add the starch or flour to the starch

3. Once sautéed, add the starch or flour to

just thicken the mixture up. Add the Sangria; reduce to your liking. Add the cream. Adjust the amount to your liking. Bring to a slow boil. 4. Add the cream cheese and sour cream. Mix well, until there are no lumps. Add the corn. Bring to a slow boil; reduce to a simmer. 5. Grease a glass casserole pan with butter. On a flat flour tortilla, place 5 or 6 small cooked shrimp and/or pieces of crab. Sprinkle a good helping of the shredded cheese on top. Roll the tortilla tightly; place in the casserole pan. Do this until the pan is full. Pour all of the cream sauce onto the enchiladas. Cover with a layer of cheese. 6. Place in the oven; bake for 45 minutes. The edges will boil, and the cheese will brown slightly. Remove; let cool.

To search for more great recipes from any of the 9 NOW Magazines publications, visit www.nowmagazines.com.





Congratulations to Barry Young, our August \$50 Scavenger Hunt prize winner! The hidden image is not always easy to find, but they're worth the search.

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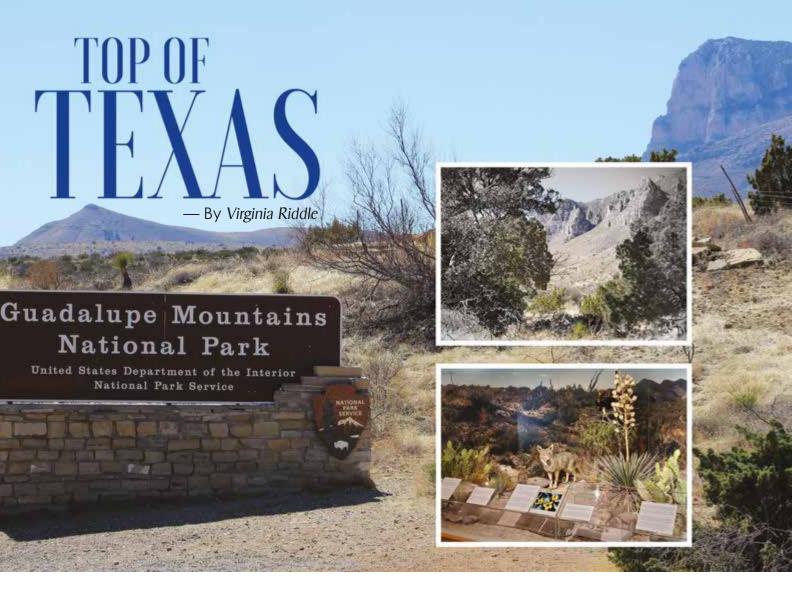
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Hugging the state line between Texas and New Mexico, Guadalupe Mountains National Park offers a glance into the past. Visitors accomplishing the 3,000-foot elevation gain during the 8.4-mile hike to Guadalupe Peak, which at 8,751 feet, is the highest point in Texas, are rewarded with majestic views of diverse landscapes — desert, canyons and mountains. Visitors hear stories of animals, plants and people who adapted to this rugged land through the Pine Springs Visitor Center's displays, ranger programs and hikes varying from easy to strenuous.

The varied topography was formed from a tropical ocean that became a flourishing habitat for marine organisms living in the Capitan Reef. The sea evaporated, and the reef subsided, buried in sediments and salts, until the mountains lifted and exposed it. Fossils from that period exist throughout the park but cannot be removed.

The Nde people, also known as Mescalero Apache, hunted, camped and took refuge on these lands until the mid-1800s when the Butterfield Stagecoach, U.S. Army troops, ranchers and conservationists arrived. The Pinery Trail leads to the ruins of a stagecoach station. The Williams Ranch site is only open to four-wheel vehicles, but the Frijole Ranch History Museum site is an easy one-hour hike. It features a springhouse, schoolhouse, bunkhouse, barn and picnic area. The historic Pratt Cabin and Hunter Line Shack can be visited by hiking the McKittrick Canyon Trail.

Along the deep, sheer-sided McKittrick Canyon walls, hikers can view the beautiful, rare Texas Madrone trees. With mixed desert, highland forest and canyon woodland landscapes, this canyon is home to willows, alligator junipers, ponderosa pine, cacti and Texas walnut, ash, oak and maple trees, where wildlife feed and take shelter. Glimpses of jackrabbits, coyotes, porcupines, gray foxes, mule deer, mountain lions and elk mean pets must be on a leash. Pets and bikes aren't allowed on the trails. Horseback riding and hiking are ways to see wonders along the 80 miles of trails.

Nature enthusiasts enjoy the easy hikes through the Indian

Meadow Nature Trail or Salt Basin Dunes, a mini-gypsum white-sands experience. The moderate McKittrick Canyon Nature Trail features the Chihuahuan Desert and the Capitan Reef. El Capitan stands at 8,085 feet with a 2,300-foot elevation gain. The trail is classified as moderately strenuous with switchbacks, multiple ascents and descents. It winds just below El Capitan but offers unique views of the peak and excellent views to the east, south and west. Other strenuous trails aren't marked well, requiring guidebooks from the visitor center.

Safety is key to enjoying this park. Weather can change quickly, so check with rangers for expected conditions. Avoid peak trails during high winds and thunderstorms. In snow, ice or rain, don't boulder climb. Rock climbing is not allowed due to instability of the cliffs, but many strenuous trails require climbing boulders. Trekking poles are recommended for these hikes. Hot on the desert floor with little shade, carry plenty of potable water, sunscreen and a hat. Wear sturdy hiking shoes, even for easy trails. Watch for rattlesnakes and scorpions.

Staying in one of 10 primitive backpacking campgrounds with no services requires a free permit. RV and tent camping is available year-round at Pine Springs and Dog Canyon for a fee. Reservations are recommended but not required. Carlsbad, New Mexico, 52 miles to the north, offers accommodations and conveniences. Whites City, New Mexico, a 30-minute drive north from the park entrance, has the nearest gas station. If coming from the south, fill up at Van Horn or El Paso, Texas.

Neighboring Carlsbad Caverns National Park and Lincoln National Forest in New Mexico share much of Guadalupe Mountain National Park's ecosystem, but each offers unique features. When traveling and staying in this remote land, visitors encounter bright stars with wind and coyotes howling. Guadalupe Mountains National Park specializes in those experiences a great place to get away.

Photos by Virginia Riddle, LLC.



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There is probably nothing better to enhance the curb appeal of your home than a fresh coat of paint. Whether you are interested in taking advantage of a seller's market or just wanting to spruce up your own castle, painting the exterior of your home is a great do-it-yourself project.

The professional painters will all agree that the most important steps in a quality paint job happen before the first drop of paint is applied. Those include preparing the surface so the paint will adhere properly and last as long as a great coat of paint should and trimming or tying any shrubs or limbs away from the house.

Pressure washing your house will remove a lot of dirt and debris, and if there is any loose paint, it will be revealed so you can attack it with your paint scraper. You can use trisodium phosphate (TSP) mixed with water in your pressure washer to aid in removing mold, mildew and other surface impurities. Be sure to use proper protective gear when using any such chemical solution. Spray the home at relatively low pressure, being careful not to spray deep into cracks or openings in your exterior surfaces. Before you start scraping, go ahead and place your drop cloths on the ground and/or over your shrubs to catch the paint debris. This will make your cleanup go a lot faster when the job is complete.

The next step is to scrape the loose paint. Note that there are power scrapers available for rent that are connected to a large vacuum. Regardless of what kind of scraper you use, if lead paint is involved, you will want to use proper protective gear as outlined by the EPA. As you proceed with the scraping, you will probably come upon some areas where wood has deteriorated or pulled away from its connecting surfaces. You can stop scraping and make these repairs as you go along or make note of them, so you can get back to them and make the necessary repairs before you start priming the surface. Either way, it is important to make sure the repairs are completed before you start painting. Any rotting wood should be removed completely and either replaced with new wood, or perhaps a wood filler can be used.

Sanding will be your next step. An orbital sander with medium grit paper will help feather the edges of any remaining paint and make a smoother transition, as well as create a better surface for the fresh paint.

With a paint brush, apply a coat of quality primer to any raw or repaired surfaces, as well as any stains or unsightly knots in the wood. If you are going to repaint with the same color, priming the entire surface may not be necessary, but if you are going to use a lighter or darker color, priming will seal the prior surface and enhance the finished paint job. Also, many quality paints today contain primer with the paint, which may also be an option for you. Discuss your project with your paint supplier.

You will want to caulk any cracks around doors and windows, and there may also be areas to fill where wood (or other siding or finish material) contacts another surface, such as brick or stonework. Priming before caulking provides a better contact surface for the caulk. On an older home, reglazing your windows is often part of any exterior painting project. These details enhance the aesthetics of the home, and they may also help with your loss of heating and cooling.

Paint the trim around doors and windows first, using an angled brush. Take care to not paint the windows closed! You may want to mask all the glass first to avoid the sometimestedious task of scraping the paint off the windows later. Follow the paint manufacturer's guidelines for drying time before applying a second coat.

Finally, you can begin painting the siding with either a sprayer, brushes or rollers — and you may choose to use a combination of these. Working from the top down will help you correct the inevitable drips as you go. Now give yourself a pat on the back for a job well done!

Sources: 1. Homedepot.com. 2. HGTV.com.





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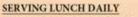
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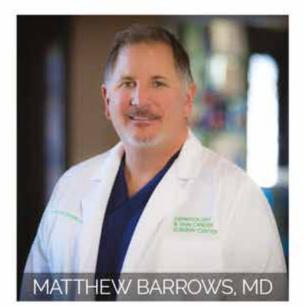
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- 4 Quick-fire talk music
- 7 L A clock setting
- 10 It may be tipped
- 11 Stuck in bed
- 12 Corn spike
- 13 Nadal's org.
- 14 Hot red pepper 16 Once in a blue moon
- 18 What Lizzie Borden took
- 19 Double-crossers
- 21 So far
- 22 Thready streaks
- 26 TV witch
- 28 Compulsion
- 31 Norwegian princess
- 32 Suffer remorse
- 34 Entirely
- 35 Bran source
- 36 "--- Believer" (Neil Diamond song)
- 37 Rail support
- 38 Mineral spring
- 39 Cookie holder
- 40 Loan charge

Down 1 California peak

- 2 Beanery customers
- 3 Cavorting
- 4 Unsalted Italian cheese
- 5 1836 siege site
- 5 1836 si
- 6 Layer
- 7 He planned and developed Philly
- 8 N R A spokesperson --- Loesch
- 9 Prehistoric predator
- 15 Getting less
- 17 Compression-ignition engine
- 20 Kigali resident
- 23 Geological layers
- 24 Composer Glass
- 25 Staff Sergeant author of "The Ballad of the Green Berets"
- 27 Home of the Heat
- 28 Sky oddities
- 29 Harvest
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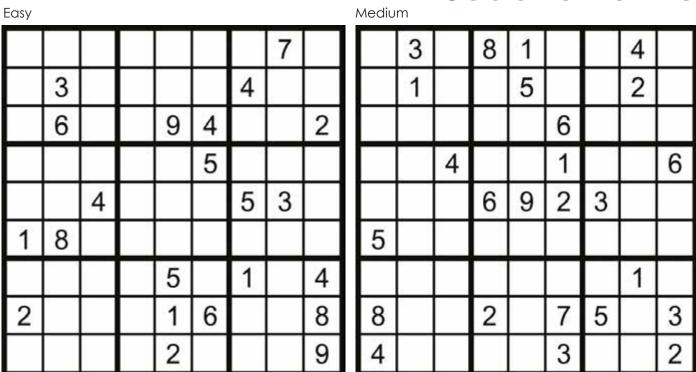


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Due to COVID-19, some events may have been cancelled or rescheduled while we were at press. Check with individual organizations or your city or Chamber websites to verify dates and times.

Hello

10/4

National Night Out: 6:00-8:00 p.m. Check for an event in your neighborhood: www.midlothian.tx.us/182/ National-Night-Out.

10/6

Scarecrow Contest Entry Deadline: Free and open to anyone in Midlothian. Set up scarecrows in Heritage Park 4:00-8:00 p.m., October 7-12. www.midlothiantxdba.com/ scarecrow-festival.

10/8

Heroes of Midlothian Oktoberfest:

Bounce houses, live band, silent auction, beer and wine selection, etc. 3:00-10:00 p.m., Ellis County Expo Center, 2300 US-287, Waxahachie. www.heroesofmidlothian.org.

Autumn Beats:

Bring chairs and blankets to sit on. Food available for purchase. 7:00-9:00 p.m., Midlothian Community Park Amphitheater, 3601 S. 14th St.

10/15

Chamber Auction: Dinner and auction supporting business education and advocacy programs. 5:30-9:00 p.m., Midlothian Conference Center, I Community Dr.

10/17

MISD Education Foundation Golf Tournament: 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Walnut Creek Country Club, II51 Country Club Dr., Mansfield. For more information, visit www.misd.gs/mef.

10/29

26th Annual Texas Country Reporter Festival:

Hosted by Bob and Kelli Phillips. 300-plus craft booths, two food courts and concert. Admission: Free. 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., Downtown Waxahachie.

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Downtown Trick Or Treat: 8th Street will be closed to through traffic during the event. 4:00-6:00 p.m., Downtown.

11/12

Ellis County Veterans Celebration Ceremony:

Classic Swing Band: 9:30 a.m.; ceremony with a memorial service and military-style flyover begins: 10:00 a.m., Waxahachie Civic Center, 200 Civic Center Dr., Waxahachie, TX 75165.

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

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