/axahachie N



Menagerie

Kathy Madison's art sparkles

United Efforts

This Ellis County group coordinates assistance

Best of In the Kitchen: Italian Cuisine

2024 Crossroads of Texas Festival **Shopping Guide**

Featured Business: Shepherd Roofing & Renovations

Also inside:

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Crossword

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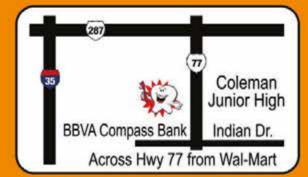
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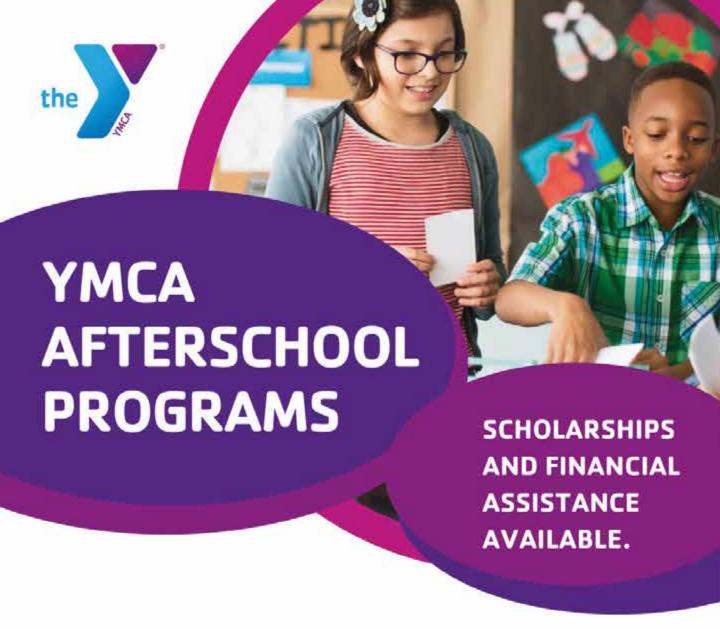
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ON THE COVER



Kathy Madison finds beauty in glass.

Photo by Kobbi R. Blair.

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Adam Walker WaxahachieNOW Editor adam.walker@nowmagazines.com (469) 285-2008

EDITOR'S NOTE

I love licorice ...

I'm the only one in my family who does. I don't believe I've ever seen or used actual licorice root. Most of my experience with licorice is with the wonderful black candy. I relish the flavor, the texture, the color.

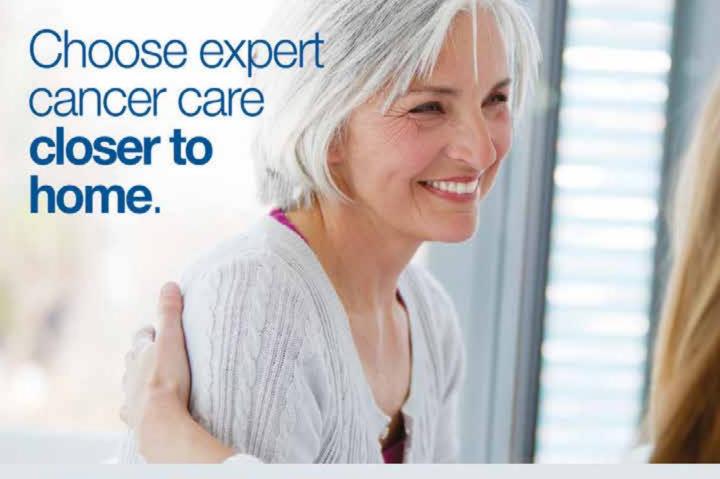
But it isn't just actual licorice. I also love anise, which comes from the seeds of an unrelated plant. Several kinds of Mexican pan dulce use anise as a flavoring. The Italians use it in sausages as well as biscotti and other cookies, like the Greeks, who also use it in their liquor called ouzo. The Moroccans use it in some of their soups. It also makes a fantastic hot tea.

A third spice shares a very similar flavor. Star anise is a dried fruit used extensively in Chinese, Indian, Vietnamese and Indonesian food. Chinese cooking uses it whole, or ground as part of five spice powder, in beef, pork tofu and egg dishes, like tea eggs. It's an ingredient in Vietnamese pho. And if you love Indian biryani, this spice might be why. They also use it in curries, dal and chickpea dishes. Indonesians use it in chicken soups and sauces.

Some people say fennel has the same flavor, but milder, and while I agree that fennel and ajwain share just a little similarity, I don't think they're as similar as the other three. But anyone who tells you tarragon or caraway are similar, is tasting something quite different from what I taste in them. It's interesting how different people actually experience different flavors from different foods, based on our genetics.

Time to hit those after-Halloween sales!





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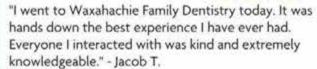
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Kathy Madison sees all kinds of potential when she considers glass. "I started doing glass art after I attended the War Eagle Arts and Crafts Festival in Fayetteville, Arkansas. It was there I saw my first dichroic glass jewelry and fell in love with the stunning array of colors which reflected off the pieces. Three years later, while visiting an art gallery in Hot Springs, Arkansas, I saw the same, beautiful jewelry. Intending to buy, the owner persuaded me to take my first jewelry class, and I jumped at the opportunity. The following Christmas, I asked my husband for a kiln. I started making jewelry, my friends liked it."

That was how it began. "I started with jewelry, but now I mostly do table, wall and garden art, as well as nightlights. Mushroom nightlights are trending now, but you can't really see how cool they are in the daylight on an event table. So, I'm always doing squats to show them to customers, under the table where it's dark! I also do a lot of bowls and plates. I teach classes, and I do a lot of commission pieces, which use the cremains of loved ones or pets in the glasswork. I practiced with my dog, Leroy's, ashes. I don't think he would mind. I'm very creative, and I put a lot of thought into my designs."

Glass

"I'm very creative, and I put a lot of thought into my designs."



Menagerie - By Adam Walker











Some kinds of glass are easier to work with than others. "I love to work with dichroic glass, with its wide range of reflecting colors. About 95 percent of the time, it comes out more beautiful than when it went into the kiln! It's beautiful to watch what glass does as it melts and drapes."

One of the unique things Kathy is known for is her glass succulent gardens. She creates little planters full of all kinds of colorful cacti and succulents made entirely of glass. "I make the cactus in silicone molds. I mix the powdered glass with water to make a paste. I put that in the molds and freeze it, like ice cubes. Then you take it out of the molds, like you do ice cubes. You have to get it from the freezer to the kiln immediately. You can't let it melt before it goes in the kiln. I find the containers for the succulent gardens at thrift stores, so no two are the same." There's epoxy resin involved in the creation of the gardens, which once resulted in several gardens firmly stuck to the granite countertops in her kitchen. "I thought I was going to have to tell my husband that I had destroyed the countertops! But I leaned that 90-percent alcohol will get succulent gardens off granite!"

Kathy makes a wide variety of other glass art from woven strips of glass arranged in circles or squares and then framed. She also creates seascapes or other fanciful scenes. Speaking of the seascape displayed on her living room wall, Kathy explained, "I cut the sea horse out on a ring saw." The same equipment comes in handy for cats, dragonflies, whimsical birds and other animals and plants. Garden stakes and glass owls and frogs can be found, scattered around her house.

Kathy enjoys all her kilns and saws. "I have more equipment than my husband





does, at this point! I currently have three kilns at home. My first kiln, the delivery truck wouldn't come down the road, so my husband tried to unload it by himself. It weighed over 500 pounds. It fell and shattered! Now I have another one like that, and two fiber kilns. They work differently, for different projects. I have different grinders, and all kinds of molds. "I have the silicone molds, but also ceramic clay molds for my lizards, and Texas-shaped molds and molds for pet footprints." Kathy's garage plays host to racks of glass sheets and shelves upon shelves of glass powder and coarse glass.

Over the years, Kathy's side project has grown. "I started doing nothing but jewelry, and I'd have one table at shows. Now I have three to four tables. And I'm showing all kinds of things. I love joking around with my customers. I now teach a class on making jewelry out of glass scraps. You never throw a piece of glass away! I also teach how to make suncatchers. Soon I'll be teaching some classes on making glass Christmas ornaments. Those are always popular. In November and December, I'm teaching one class for a Ladies Night Out and another for mothers and their kids or grandkids to do together. It's a great way to make your own glass memories for the tree." Kathy takes pride in the quality of the items she creates and makes sure everything will glitter and shine. NOW





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UNITED EFFORES



— By Angel Morris

Just as its name implies, Unite Ellis is an organization bringing together multiple groups to help locals in need. Through collaborative efforts, leaders in business, church, education, government and other nonprofits partner to uplift the community. At Unite's helm is Anna Hammonds. "We have amazing people doing amazing things in this county. Unite's mission is to ensure we're all working together to best utilize resources," Anna explained.



When someone can't be helped by an individual organization, Unite puts its network in motion. "With my co-champion, Chris Aguilar, we utilize about 150 people across the county to help with housing and homelessness, domestic violence, poverty and other issues," Anna shared.

In this way, Unite is about more permanent solutions. "If we work together, we're not only more effective, but we limit duplication of services and can move toward longer-term change — helping people thrive and flourish rather than just moving them on until they need help again," Anna underscored.

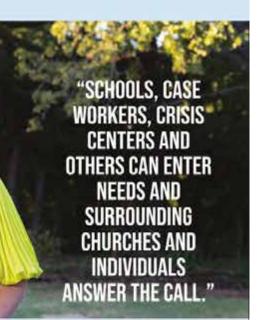
Working in the nonprofit/social services sector since 2005, Anna was drawn to Unite as a means to help the community in which she lived. She and her husband, Danny, and their four children, have lived in Midlothian since 2013, where Anna has served on the City Council, the MISD Education Foundation Board, within her church and as a business owner. "Those areas parallel the entities partnered within Unite," Anna noted. "The root of what we do as a family is our love for Jesus and wanting to make an impact in a direct way in the world, which means rolling your sleeves up and jumping in.

"In that same sense, Unite is about addressing all areas of human flourishing, including mental and physical health, vocational health, relational health, financial health and spiritual health," Anna continued.

Some of Anna's favorite success stories include Unite partners helping a single mom of two children move from a hotel to a rent house, with all appliances and furniture donated; purchasing a new trailer for a couple who lost theirs to a fire; providing things like backpacks, take-home meals, all-sizes of underwear, hygiene products and sensory rooms for schools; and directing pregnant teens to resources for when babies arrive. "There was a mom who was about to receive citations for not keeping up with her lawn. Our network not only mowed for her but bought a lawnmower and taught her sons how to use it," Anna recalled. "Teach a man to fish!"

Under the umbrella of Unite Greater Dallas — which serves seven counties — Unite Ellis utilizes CarePortal, a software project to connect families in crisis to a network of organizations that can meet their basic needs. "Schools, case workers, crisis centers and others can enter needs and surrounding churches and individuals answer the call," Anna explained. "CarePortal is one of our biggest tools and getting more people and more schools online is awesome!"

Unite also conducts Cost of Poverty Experience (COPE) simulations, giving participants a glimpse into the lives of low-income individuals and families — a look at the obstacles and decisions that impact them every day while living in poverty.



"Certainly there are times when people think others are just taking advantage of the system, and sometimes that is true, but it is rare," Anna shared. "There are so many obstacles to overcoming the cycle of poverty, COPE is truly an eye-opener toward understanding how infuriating it can be for the person really trying to better their life."

COPE is one of the most-requested tools of Unite Greater Dallas and has been facilitated 120 times for 100 groups of people with more than 8,000 participants over seven years. "What address does a homeless person list on job applications? Where do they clean up for interviews? How does an undocumented family living in a car learn how to do things the right way? How does a victim of violence get away?" Anna questioned. "COPE addresses these and so many more eye-opening issues."

Unite is keenly aware that poverty is about more than finances. "When people don't have relationships in their life, a basic support system for needs or advice, everything else can begin to collapse. Pepper in mental health or addiction issues, and the struggle is that much worse," Anna reminded.

Unite networks meet all across the county on a consistent basis by geography, service line and sector. "Our hope is that you will be inspired to become a part of someone else's success story," Anna shared. "Communities flourish when we unite."

Editor's Note: Learn more at www.uniteellis.org.





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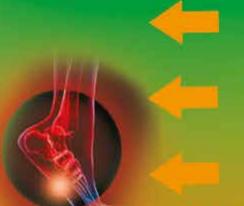
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gravel roofs anymore, so we don't do those, and real wood shake isn't even legal in Texas anymore," David informed.

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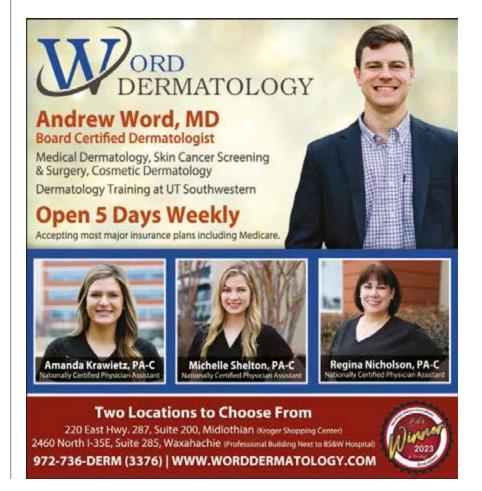
David is proud of his team's years of experience in the industry. "Together, we have more than 100 years of experience. My dad and my uncles were all roofers. I worked

summers with my dad since I was a teenager, but I got into this full time in 2012. I think we have some of the best communication in the business. We email you our estimate, so you have it to look at. We text you, to let you know when we're on our way to your house or business. We send you pictures and videos of the job in progress, so you know what's happening, and so there's evidence of the work that's being done. We have one of the best workmanship guarantees out there. Most companies guarantee their work for three to five years. We guarantee for 10 years. We have a lot of quality control and check on our crews to be sure the work is done right. When we speak to you, we aren't giving you a sales pitch. We have a conversation about your roofing issues. We don't up-sell. We make recommendations, but then it's up to you. My philosophy is to treat our customers like as if it was my grandmother's roof. We find and diagnose issues and share what we know from our experience. We give you options, and let you make the decisions."

"Together, we have more than 100 years of experience. My dad and my uncles were all roofers. I worked summers with my dad since I was a teenager, but I got into this full time in 2012."

David looks at his business differently. "We're a small business with Christian values. I set out to always do the right thing. I have given free roofs to people in real need, like an elderly lady who had holes in her roof. She didn't have the money to fix it, so she just wanted us to tarp it. I decided to re-roof her house for free. We're a business. and we're about making money, but we're also here to help. I want to help my family, but also the community." NOW













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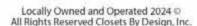
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Around Town



Luke and Theo Connell sell the cotton candy they make with their new machine.

Zoomed In:Sherre McCarroll

By Adam Walker

Sherre McCarroll is having fun representing her city as the current Miss Waxahachie in the upcoming All National American Miss pageant. "I do lots of practice for my walk and doing my speech," she said. "My favorite part of the competition is doing the actress commercials. I get to talk about Chick-fil-A and marshmallows."

This vivacious 6-year-old student at Dunaway Elementary is learning Spanish in the dual language program. "I won the Heart of Service Award in my pageant for putting flyers on doors and windows in downtown Waxahachie for a charity. I also helped Manna House with their Back to School Bash. I ran their popcorn stand, but I couldn't stop eating the popcorn! I also clean litter boxes at PetSmart. I want to win at nationals in Florida this 'Thanksgivening."



Joel and Liam Maddox help their papa (Barry McCoy) set up a maker space at The Red Barn.



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Kimberly Wishes gets ready for fall at Hobby Lobby.





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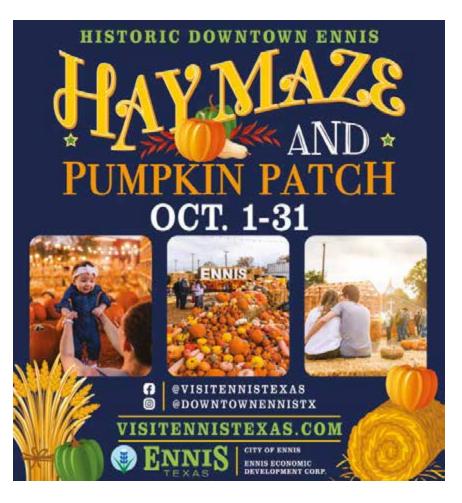
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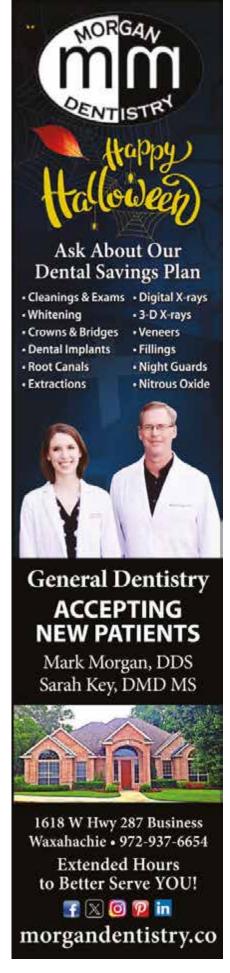
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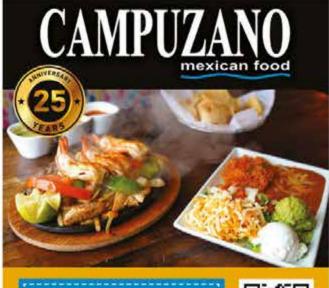
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I've had to move a couple times over the years, and Teddy has always been my go-to for my lights!! Very attentive to detail, and the execution is always amazing!! Can't wait to see my Halloween lights up this year! #

Jenny S

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Who doesn't love Italian food? It's all about family and flavor! Here is a small sampling of some of the many wonderful Italian recipes that we've printed in our magazines over the years. Buon appetito! NOW

Magagnotti Spaghetti Sauce

Provided by Alyssa Magagnotti Rose for the January 2018 issue of BurlesonNOW Magazine.

- 1 lb. ground chuck
- I medium onion, chopped
- I carrot, peeled and chopped
- 2-3 garlic cloves, finely chopped or pressed through a garlic press
- 2 Tbsp. tomato paste
- 1 cup dry red wine
- 1 28-oz. can Cento crushed tomatoes
- 2 Tbsp. sugar
- 1 Tbsp. Italian seasoning
- 2 Tbsp. balsamic vinegar
- 1 Tbsp. fresh parsley, chopped
- 1 Tbsp. fresh basil, chopped
- I fresh sprig of rosemary, whole
- Salt, to taste

Pepper, to taste

1. In a large Dutch oven or pot, brown the meat with the onions and carrots. Drain residual grease from the meat mixture.

- 2. Add the garlic and tomato paste. Cook for another 2 minutes over medium heat.
- **3.** Add the red wine; cook until the wine has reduced, about 3-4 minutes. Add the remaining ingredients; simmer on low for at least 20 minutes.
- **4.** This recipe will make enough for one 9x13-inch pan of lasagna or a pound of cooked pasta.

Italian Cheese Bread

Provided by Marsha Dameron for the April 2022 issue of CorsicanaNOW Magazine.

1/2 cup butter 1/2 cup mayonnaise 2 cups mozzarella cheese, grated 6 green onions, chopped 1 cup ripe olives I tsp. garlic powder 1/2 tsp. cayenne pepper French bread loaf, halved lengthwise

I. In a bowl, blend the butter and

mayonnaise; add the remaining ingredients except the bread. Spread the mixture onto the bread halves; piling it up high.

2. Bake at 350 F for 15-20 minutes until bubbly.

Awesome Pepperoni Pizza

Provided by Tracey Skrivanek for the May 2010 issue of EnnisNOW Magazine.

2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour 1/2 tsp. salt

1 pkg. dry yeast

1 Tbsp., plus 2 tsp. olive oil

I cup lukewarm water

1/4 cup pizza sauce

12 oz. mozzarella cheese

1 3/4 oz. pepperoni slices

1/2 tsp. dried oregano

1/8 tsp. black pepper

- 1. Preheat oven to 400 F. Lightly grease a 12x9-inch baking sheet.
- **2.** Sift the flour and salt into a large bowl. Stir in the yeast. Make a well in the center and add olive oil and water. Mix until a soft dough forms. Turn the dough out onto a lightly floured surface and knead gently for 5 minutes.
- 3. Roll out the dough and rest into

prepared baking sheet. Cover for 10 minutes at room temperature; bake for 5-7 minutes.

4. Remove the crust from the oven and spread pizza sauce on top, leaving a 3/4-inch border. Sprinkle with mozzarella and place pepperoni slices. Sprinkle with oregano and pepper. Drizzle with olive oil and bake until golden, 15-20 minutes.

Picnic Pasta Salad

Provided by Parker and Scarlette Burt for the September 2020 issue of MansfieldNOW Magazine.

6 servings of your favorite Rotini pasta, cooked, drained and cooled

1/2 cup Italian breadcrumbs

1/4 tsp. black pepper

Salt, to taste

I tsp. garlic powder

1/4 cup olive oil

1/2 cup water

2 Tbsp. chopped black olives

1/4 cup diced canned tomatoes (Do not drain juice.)

1. Carefully combine all ingredients; chill and enjoy.

Italian Meatballs

Provided by Jennifer Miller for the July 2015 issue of MidlothianNOW Magazine.

1/2 lb. lean ground beef

1/2 lb. Italian ground turkey

2 tsp. basil

3 cloves garlic, minced

1/2 large onion, finely chopped

2 tsp. oregano

1/4 cup parsley

1/2 tsp. pepper

1/2 tsp. salt

I cup Italian breadcrumbs

1 cup Parmesan cheese

Heavy shake of Johnny's Garlic Spread & Seasoning

1. Mix all ingredients together completely. Form meatballs to preferred size.

2. Bake at 400 F. for 20-25 minutes. turning meatballs during cooking. Add to sauce of your choice; continue to cook approximately 1 hour or freeze for later.

Tortellini Soup

Provided by Jolie Crews for the December 2017 issue of North Ellis Co.NOW Magazine.

3 garlic cloves, minced

I tsp. olive oil

I large can diced tomatoes

I can tomato sauce

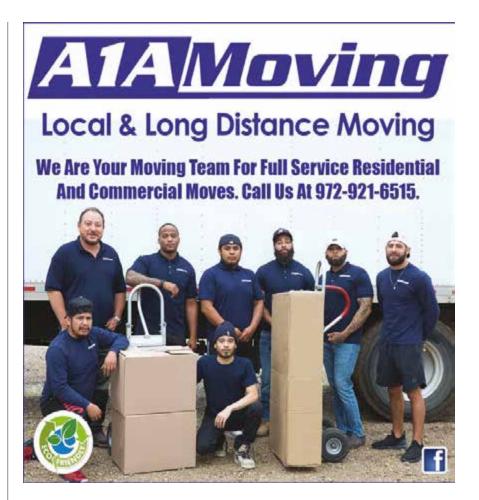
4 cups chicken stock

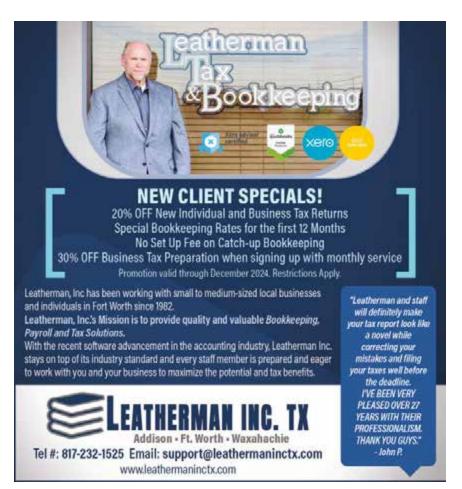
1/2 tsp. dried oregano

4 large fresh basil leaves

1/2 tsp. dried basil

1/2 block cream cheese





I bag frozen cheese tortellini I bundle fresh spinach leaves Browned ground beef, to taste (optional) Salt and pepper, to taste

- 1. Lightly brown garlic in olive oil.
- **2.** Add tomatoes, tomato sauce, chicken stock and spices; add cream cheese.
- **3.** While cheese melts, prepare tortellini per package directions. Drain and add to sauce mixture. Add spinach and beef, if desired. Add salt and pepper to taste.

Tiramisu

Provided by Rhys Remar for the January 2018 issue of SouthwestNOW Magazine.

6 egg yolks
3/4 cup white sugar
2/3 cup milk
1 1/4 cups heavy cream
1/2 tsp. vanilla extract
1 lb. mascarpone cheese
2 3-oz. pkgs. ladyfinger cookies
1/4 cup strong brewed coffee
Cocoa powder

I. In a medium saucepan, combine egg yolks and sugar until well blended. Add the milk; cook over medium heat, stirring until boiling. Let boil for 1 minute; let cool. Tightly cover; store in the refrigerator for 1 hour.

- **2.** In a medium bowl, beat the cream with the vanilla until stiff peaks form.
- **3.** Whisk mascarpone into the yolk mixture.
- **4.** Split the ladyfingers in half; drizzle coffee over them, allowing them to absorb the coffee. (More coffee enhances the flavor, but makes them mushier.)
- **5.** In a 7x11-inch pan, layer as follows: half ladyfingers, half mascarpone custard, half whipped cream, remaining ladyfingers, remaining custard, remaining whipped cream. Sprinkle with cocoa. Cover; store in the refrigerator for at least 4 hours to set.

Homemade Alfredo Sauce

Provided by Gavin Bone for the February 2019 issue of WaxahachieNOW Magazine.

1/2 cup butter
2 cups heavy whipping cream
4 oz. cream cheese
1/2 tsp. minced garlic
1 tsp. garlic powder
1 tsp. Italian seasoning
1/4 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
1 cup Parmesan cheese, grated

1. In a medium saucepan, add butter, whipping cream and cream cheese. Cook over medium heat; whisk until melted.

2. Add minced garlic, garlic powder, Italian

seasoning, salt and pepper. Continue to whisk until smooth; add the Parmesan cheese.

3. Bring to a simmer; continue to cook for about 3-5 minutes, or until it starts to thicken. Toss it with your favorite pasta.

Panna Cotta

Provided by Chef Max Zubboli for the December 2019 issue of WeatherfordNOW Magazine.

4 cups heavy cream
1 cup sugar
1 oz. unflavored gelatin
1 1/2 tsp. vanilla extract

- **1.** Boil heavy cream and sugar. When boiling, remove from heat; mix in gelatin and vanilla. Pour mixture into containers; let it cool down.
- **2.** Put in the refrigerator for 3 hours; serve cold with fresh fruit, jam or chocolate.

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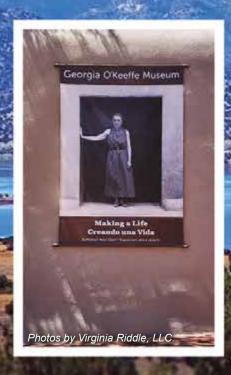






AMgstical LANDSCAPE

By Virginia Riddle





The many changing, vibrant colors of the Piedra Lumbre Formation's bluffs, grasslands, lakes and plains had drawn indigenous people; Mexican, French and Anglo colonists; and a gang of bandits by the time artist Georgia O'Keeffe heard about the then-popular dude ranch, Rancho de los Burros, while on a trip visiting her friend, Mabel Dodge Luhan, in Taos, New Mexico, in 1929. O'Keeffe, on a visit to the ranch in 1934, fell in love with the solitude and majesty of the landscape and began spending summers at the ranch, purchasing her own cottage there in 1940.

Today, after checking in at the Welcome Center, O'Keeffe's Ghost Ranch visitors can book horseback rides, obtain a map and fun activities for kids, view a movie about the ranch's history and book three meals per day at the Dining Hall. Archaeological sites and hikes around the ranch's village and trails to sites O'Keeffe painted are a must. Be sure to carry plenty of water, sunscreen, wear a hat, watch for snakes and other wildlife and take it easy if you are not acclimated to the 6,500-foot elevation. Day-pass holders can take dogs on hikes, if they are leashed, and checking in at the Welcome Center before and after hiking trails is recommended. Whether visiting on a day pass, overnight or for one of the weeklong art, yoga or meditation class offerings, visitors can book lodging at tent and RV sites, group lodging or private rooms. There are no phones in guest rooms, and cell services are spotty at best at the Welcome Center and on the mesa.

The ranch is home to O'Keeffe's summer cottage, with the Ghost House and Ghost Tree next door. Legend has it that when the gang of bandits inhabited the ranch's canyons, the Ghost Tree was used for hangings, thus the name. Visitors can check out books at the Ghost Ranch Library, soak in the pool and socialize in the cantina or Dining Hall. Ghost Ranch is the site of paleontological digs resulting in the discovery of Coelophysis in 1947. lt, along with artifacts from the Pueblos ancestral Paleo Indian culture from 10,000 years ago and items from the ranch's dude ranch days, are exhibited in two museums at Ghost Ranch the Florence Hawley Ellis Museum of Anthropology and the Ruth Hall Museum of Paleontology.

Nearby outdoor activities, such as canoeing, kayaking or paddle boarding at the Abiquiú Lake Recreation Area, can be booked at the ranch's Welcome Center or at the ALRA Visitor Center. The ALRA also offers a playground, campground, swimming area and boat ramp. Other area places to visit include the Carson National Forest, Cerro Pedernal, Chama River Canyon Wilderness, Echo Amphitheater and the Dar al Islam Mosque. The Continental Divide National Scenic Trail passes through the nearby Santa Fe National Forest.

O'Keeffe spent summers at Ghost Ranch, but she enjoyed owning her own home in the village of Abiquiú, New Mexico. Her home can be toured by making a reservation. The Spanish hacienda, which she completely restored, also gave her fruits and vegetables from its well-irrigated garden throughout the winters spent in town. The village offers restaurants, an inn, art galleries and the Poshuouinge Ruins.

The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum in Santa Fe complements a visit to Ghost Ranch through its extensive collection of her works. Also exhibited are personal items, her paints, brushes and sketches. It is the first museum in America devoted exclusively to showing works by a female artist.

Sources:

I. www.ghostranch.org.

2. Hassrick, Peter H., editor. The Georgia O'Keeffe Museum, Harry N. Abrams, Inc., New York. 1997.

3. Brochure/Map, Ghost Ranch, 2023.

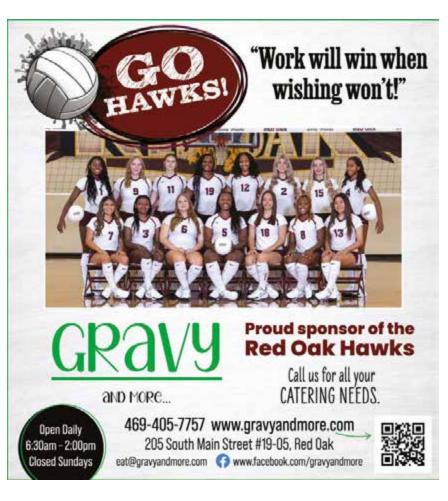


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- Ellis Co. Woman's Building (Davis Hall) **Main Early Voting Site* 407 W Jefferson Street. Waxahachie
- Ellis County Sub Courthouse (Conf. Rm) 207 S. Sonoma Trail, Ennis
- Midlothian Conference Center (Ballrooms) 1 Community Circle Drive, Midlothian
- Palmer ISD Annex Bldg (Portable Bldg) 303 Bulldog Way, Palmer
- Red Oak Municipal Center (Ballrooms) 200 Lakeview Parkway, Red Oak

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Dr. Allala is a graduate of the Texas A&M School of Dentistry. "When I started there, it was still Baylor. My diploma has both names on it," she recalled. "I specialize in oral surgery, and we're really good at it. I'm nothing without my team. We do everything in dentistry. I like being well rounded. I enjoy being an overachiever, so I'm constantly taking continuing education, keeping up with all the

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Dr. Allala is proud of the service they provide at Serenity Advanced Dentistry. "I think we give five-star service. And I know my staff is five-star. We know what works and what doesn't. I know it sounds comy, but this is my life's work. Most of my staff have been with me for years, at different locations around DFW, before I came to Cedar Hill, I met Mariela seven years ago, in Pleasant Grove. It was my first job out of school. Racine has been with me four years, and lazmine three years, both in Red Oak. Our newest team member is lessica. She found us three months ago when she emailed me looking for an opportunity to shadow a dentist."

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Bingo, drinks, raffle, car show, food, music. Free entry and parking. 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m., St. Joseph Catholic Church Grounds, 600 E. Marvin Ave.

10/20

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10/26

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Fridays

Bingo:

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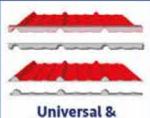
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