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CONTENTS

- 8** **SERIOUS FUN**
Grace Covenant Church
hosts flag football for
200-plus players.
- 14** **SOARING
SERVICE**
Post 4746 promotes patriotism
and helps more than veterans.
- 32** **ROCKING
ALONG**
Relax or explore in the heart of
the Blue Ridge Mountains.
- 36** **TACKLING TILE**
Laying new floors requires
planning and patience.



- 18** BusinessNOW
- 20** CookingNOW
- 30** Around TownNOW

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ON THE COVER

*Brandon and Jill Bishop look
forward to the 2020 Father &
Son Bowl.*

Photo by
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Lisa

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EDITOR'S NOTE

What is thanksgiving?

Do you want the historical significance or the meaning? According to history.com, the American holiday of Thanksgiving came from the Pilgrims' 1621 harvest meal. "Sarah Josepha Hale [influential magazine editor and author] petitioned for a national holiday for close to 40 years, believing that 'Thanksgiving, like the Fourth of July, should be considered a national festival and observed by all people.'" Lincoln agreed in 1863, but not until 1941 did the U.S. Congress make the fourth Thursday in November a national holiday.

Merriam-Webster defines *thanksgiving* as the day in November, but also as "a public acknowledgment or celebration of divine goodness, the act of giving thanks or a prayer expressing gratitude." As we enter this crazy, busy time of the year, we can feel anything but thankful. Often, we let life sidetrack us with a massive to-do list and seldom think about why we celebrate at all. In recent years, before Thanksgiving Day ends, we move on to Christmas with the infamous Black Friday sales. I'm guilty. I like bargains, too. And with a large family, I can easily let preparations leave me frazzled.

The Pilgrims set aside a time of celebration because they endured a most challenging year. Many of them didn't survive to attend that first harvest feast. Those who did rejoiced for life. May this entire month be one in which you find many reasons to give thanks to the Lord and people around you. Take time out for true thankfulness this year.

Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving!

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SERIOUS FUN

— By Melissa Rawlins

Joshua Bishop is already looking forward to playing flag football with his dad, Brandon, in the Father & Son Bowl at Grace Cartwright Park in January. “Personally, the bowl has been a chance to have ‘The Griffey Experience,’” Joshua said. “Ken (Griffey) Jr. and Ken Sr. played together for the Seattle Mariners,” he explained. “This Father & Son Bowl provides a good chance for me and Dad to play together in a big setting, a competition experience that feels like the World Series or Super Bowl as opposed to the backyard, pick-up game feel.”

It all hinges on pairing fathers and sons who want to have fun playing five-man flag football. They’ll play on one of three fields set aside for the Father & Son Bowl at Cartwright Park. With its expansive parking lot and clubhouse, the setting





is perfect for the experience the bowl's organizers designed.

Food vendors, blaring music, the big game and, at the end, the announcement of each boy's name, along with highlights from the game they played, make for a unique and exciting experience. "Each of us dads is making this about the sons, not reliving our glory days," Brandon said.

With lots of help from Grace Covenant Church, Brandon and his family organized the first Father & Son Bowl in Weatherford last January, inspired by a longstanding Father & Son Bowl hosted by Darin and Caree Clark and Rolling Hills Community Church in Franklin, Tennessee. That's where Brandon and his wife, Jill, attended when they first married.

Brandon and Joshua played in that bowl years ago, before Brandon's work took him to California and then Texas. "Some of those players in the Tennessee bowl come from as far as Wisconsin," Brandon said, "because they played before and moved away, and then the son would say, 'Dad! I want to go back.'"

It's a family event inside and out. "I couldn't do this without my wife," Brandon said. "She's an integral part of our team, doing as much work as I in getting this set up." Their daughters also roll up their sleeves to produce the bowl. "Aby came out and marked fields with me and was one of the photographers. Isabel likes to call herself the head cheerleader. With her friends, including the pastor's daughter, they're not shy."

The girls' T-shirts say "No. 1 Fan." Much of the fun of the day is seeing moms, grandmothers, aunts, often the whole family, come out to watch their men and boys play.

Each father and son plays only one game. The event is not tournament-style. "It still feels like a big competition," said Joshua, who usually played receiver to Brandon's quarterbacking. "It was a ton of





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fun to do it with my dad and other guys. Sweaty hugs, throwing the ball."

During each backyard-style game, played by more than 200 fathers and sons, each player keeps his eyes on the ball and tries to get to the pigskin, wherever it may be. "We're not shadowing each other, but we do look for each other, encourage each other, share the experience together," Brandon said. "Still, we're just playing a game with other fathers and sons."

Last year, the bowl featured three games played simultaneously on three fields and three rounds. "At the last bowl, we lost against a team from Mansfield. It was a tough game. They beat us," Joshua said. "We gave glory to Christ, offering final handshakes, congratulating them on their victory, going away joyfully, not defeated."

Players wear T-shirts promoting the Father & Son Bowl with sponsors listed on the back. "The primary significance is that we're proclaiming ourselves warriors for Christ, ready to go out there fighting, playing for Him, for His glory, like a knight of the roundtable," Joshua said. "It's not a macho kind of thing, because He's watching for humility, a heart for Him, a desire for His name to be praised, and submitting all victory, all loss, all to Him, nothing to you."

The Father & Son Bowl games are serious fun. "We come together, not as adversaries, but to celebrate fathers and sons. Our volunteers are there to spur excitement and camaraderie," Brandon said, explaining the precision of the plan to connect fathers to their families and encourage them as strong leaders. "You see a lot of different family dynamics. Men from the church pair up with sons who arrive without a father or father

figure." Everybody has fun, while the community at Grace Covenant hopes to be what Brandon calls, "champions for the fatherless."

Growing up in Arlington, Brandon's sport was soccer, although he loved most sports and played anything he could on the playground. Since his parents divorced when he was young, he knows what it's like to be reared by a single mother. "The Lord worked on my heart to give glory to Him by raising my son and daughters in the knowledge of what a strong man should be," Brandon said. "The thing that attracted me to this Father & Son Bowl is our desire to point people to Christ and to connect the gospel with fatherhood."



Players will be greeted while still in the parking lot. After registration, they'll get to warm up and practice moves in the Skills Zone, and if this January is anything like last, they'll enjoy food prepared and served at no charge by local restaurants.

Beyond the fun they'll have during the game, they'll also attend an extraordinary ceremony. They'll stand for the national anthem, experience a flyover and possibly receive a trophy. Last year, the Going Long Award was given to the player who traveled the farthest, and a Moxie Man Award went to the oldest player, who was 74.

The message Brandon gave moved every heart. "As fathers, we can't loosen up on our job," he said. "We have to be there every day, every minute, to encourage our children to be everything they can be." Per the thrust of that speech, Brandon and Joshua are living to make every play matter. **NOW**



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SOARING

— By Lisa Bell

★ SERVICE



After 26 years in the U.S. Navy as a mechanic and flight engineer, Patrick Clark joined the Veterans of Foreign Wars in 2013 as a lifetime member. He and his wife, Amy, a 24-year U.S. Navy veteran, moved to Weatherford in 2014. Desiring local involvement, Patrick transferred to Post 4746 in 2015, where he has served as post commander since 2018.

"I joined from a sense of service and continued camaraderie," Patrick said. "At the VFW, I find like-minded people with similar experiences, wanting to give back to the community." As the couple started working with the local group, they brought Post 4746 up to "All-State" and "All-American" honors during the last two years, an achievement in which they take great pride.

Originally created to provide services for veterans, the VFW also interacts with communities. In Weatherford, they



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support veterans and their families and continue with the attitude that moved them to enlist in the military — service.

Not everything the VFW promotes includes veterans, but it always involves patriotism. For example, their annual scholarship programs — The Voice of Democracy, Patriotic Art and Patriotic Pen — give students a chance to earn money for college. Patrick joined with the school district to raise awareness of the contests.

David Williams, the 2019 winner of The Voice of Democracy competition, earned one of two district spots from 15 local entries. Winning district, he eventually placed 10th in the state out of 1,558 participants. “It’s a great way to earn a little extra money for college, but it’s not just about the money. It also fosters patriotism in younger generations,” he said. “These guys are passing the torch. That’s a great thing.”

For his project, David wrote an essay and prepared a speech from it. The prompt, “Why my vote counts,” led him to research the history of voting. He cited incidents of narrow margin wins in the past and referenced quotes by James Madison in *The Federalist Papers*.

The project raised awareness in David, who’s now studying political science at college in Ohio. Eligible to vote for the first time, he has no plans to rescind that right. “The only way I can impact

the world is by being the best I can be," he said. With George Washington as his hero, David strives to possess the same characteristics that made the first president what he called "one of the most genuine men of honor."

Winning the local Patriotic Art Contest, Mikenna Black chose to create a majestic papier-mâché eagle. She also completed research on the national bird. "They represent more than I thought," she admitted. "A visual representation that shows freedom, for people who fought, the eagle means courage and strength."

Currently a University of North Texas student hoping to pursue a career in nursing, she shared that although she always loved art, the contest was her first artistic competition. "I didn't know much about the VFW," she said. In the process, she grew to appreciate the veterans and their continued service. Mikenna won fifth place at the state level, competing against more than 4,000 entries.

While these two programs are for students in grades nine to 12, anyone in the sixth to eighth grade can compete in the Patriot's Pen Contest. The 2019 winner, Rileigh Lofton, won district and placed 25th in the state among 5,662 entries. She wrote an essay based on the theme, "Why I honor the American flag."

VFW Post 4746 also selects a teacher of the year and recognizes nurses and first responders. They hold celebrations of military historic events, many open to the public, that sometimes coincide with steak or burger nights. Anyone can stop by the post on first and third Fridays for steaks and every Wednesday for burgers. Tuesday nights, they host a pool tournament.

More than 500 community members attended the Fourth of July celebration, and at Christmas, they had two angel trees, one for veterans and another for families. Hosting Santa for Seniors last year, Post 4746 members delivered 127 gifts to local nursing homes.

"VFW Post 4746 spent 1,180 hours and \$9,395 in community service and youth activities," Patrick said. While he and Amy enjoy being part of the VFW, helping in the community fills their longing to serve. Together for 19 years, they look forward to finding even more ways to stay involved in Weatherford. As new Chamber of Commerce members, they will no doubt find many opportunities. **NOW**

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— By Lisa Bell

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In 1978, John and Joyce Thompson founded Thompson Tree & Exterminating. Although the name changed a few times



during the last 41 years, the family legacy continues. “Truly a legacy business, built from my parents,” managing partner Jamie Bevis-Hicks shared. “We’ve always had an incredible feel for the community and giving back.” That remained constant.

When the Thompsons retired, their daughter, Jamie, and her late husband, Randy Bevis, bought the company, becoming Fort Worth Tree & Pest Specialists. Randy, whom John mentored, passed away suddenly in 2012. John and Joyce quickly came out of retirement to help the family get back on their feet.

In January 2018, making retirement plans, Jamie decided to split the company. Although she continues as managing owner, she trusts and respects her three children as partners. Legacy Tree & Landscape’s office manager, Randi Kay Willemmin, said, “Even though we’re two businesses, we work very closely together.” She joined the company in 2016 as office manager for Fort Worth Tree and Pest Specialists, but she always felt like family.

Chris Bevis wasn’t new to Fort Worth Tree and Pest Specialists.

Trained by his dad, he continues specializing in pest control. He chose the name Bevis Family Pest Services in honor of his dad. Chris, a licensed Texas Certified Applicator, offers residential and commercial pest control. He offers monthly, quarterly and other service options designed for customers' needs. Scorpions, spiders, ticks, fleas and ants are a few of the pests people call about. Whether the problem is bugs or rodents, they have a solution, using chemical or organic products.

Megan Day and her husband, Dylan, are part owners of Legacy Tree & Landscape Specialists. Megan grew up with the family business. "This is what we do for a living, but we have a passion for saving trees in Tarrant and Parker Counties," she said. "Our passion goes far beyond the job."

Dylan worked for the company before becoming part of the family. Both John and Randy were certified arborists. Dylan learned from them. John mentored Dylan, who holds certifications as an arborist and for structural pest application. Legacy Tree & Landscape Specialists provides full insect and disease control for trees, shrubs and turf. They specialize in oak wilt treatment and prevention, but also control fire ants and mosquitoes, offering lawn plans to keep yards healthy year-round.

Jamie's other daughter, Shelby Bevis, opted to pursue a degree in the medical field. Jamie couldn't be more proud of her children. "I am thrilled to have a son and daughter with the passion Mom and Dad had," she said. "They all educate themselves to educate others."

That has been the goal since the beginning — providing quality services while educating customers. Both companies serve Tarrant and Parker counties and parts of surrounding areas.

Jamie married Clay Hicks in 2016. Ironically, Randy knew Clay, but she met him later. A business manager himself, Clay isn't actively involved with either company, but fits well with the family. Randi Kay noted, "He's always mentoring somebody."

Since losing her dad earlier this year, Jamie values having her family continue the legacy he and Joyce began. "I love having a business in Parker County where you give, and the community gives back." **NOW**

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CookingNOW

In the Kitchen With

TARA STARK AND LINDA STARK

— By Lisa Bell

Realtor Tara Stark and her mother, Linda Stark, a longtime homemaker, share a love for cooking, especially during Thanksgiving and Christmas when traditions and inherited recipes come to life. Many of those recipes came from friends and family. Some date back for generations. “Every dish served at Thanksgiving has been on the table either since 1962, or once added to the table, has never been removed,” Tara said.

Linda recalled her greatest cooking triumph. “For two weeks after hurricane Rita, we had no electricity.” As things defrosted from the freezer, she cooked them on a butane-rigged grill outside and fed anyone that came by. “We discovered we could live without modern conveniences,” she shared. “It was a great time despite the hardships.” **NOW**

Basic Creole Dressing

2 sticks butter (divided use)
1/2 lb. Jimmy Dean Original Lean Pork Sausage
1/2 lb. lean ground beef
2-3 large onions, finely chopped
4 stalks celery, finely chopped
2 cloves garlic, finely chopped

1 Tbsp. Worcestershire Sauce
6-8 cups prepared, crumbled cornbread
2 10.75-oz. cans chicken broth (Can substitute broth made from turkey parts or juices formed while cooking a turkey.)
Tony Chachere’s Creole Seasoning, to taste
Black pepper and garlic salt, to taste

1/2 to 1 cup green onions, chopped
(Optional — used when baking dressing separately and not stuffing in the turkey.)

1. Melt 1 stick butter in a Dutch oven; fry meat until brown. Remove meat; set aside.
2. Using the same pan, add onions, celery and garlic; cook until soft. Add Worcestershire and remaining stick of butter. Stir well; bring to a boil.
3. Reduce heat; simmer for about 2 hours (less time if desired). Add cornbread. Combine with meat mixture.
4. Adjust moistness by adding broth. Add seasonings to taste, and mix in green onions, if desired. Use 1-2 cups for stuffing the turkey, or bake in a 350 F oven until brown.

Super Sugar Cookies

Linda Stark — never missed a Christmas.

1/2 cup powdered sugar
1/2 cup granulated sugar
1/2 cup butter

1/2 cup oil
 1 egg
 1 tsp. baking soda
 1 tsp. salt
 2 cups, plus 1 1/2 Tbsp. flour
 1/2 tsp. cream of tartar
 1 tsp. vanilla

1. Preheat oven to 360-365 F.
2. Mix all ingredients well; refrigerate for 30 minutes.
3. Drop by spoonfuls onto cookie sheet. Bake for 8-10 minutes.

Bundles of Green Beans

Linda Stark — makes 8 servings.

2 16-oz. cans whole green beans
 1/2 lb. thinly sliced bacon
 1/3 cup brown sugar
 1/3 cup butter, melted
 Dash of garlic salt

1. Drain beans; divide into individual servings. Wrap each serving with 1/2 slice of uncooked bacon. Place bundles in a baking dish.
2. Mix together brown sugar, butter and garlic salt. Pour or spoon mixture over beans. Bake in a 350 F oven for 30 minutes.

Cranberry Salad (Pink Stuff)

Shared with Linda by a ranching family in 1964.

1 lb. fresh cranberries
 2 cups sugar
 4 cups miniature marshmallows
 1 cup pecans
 1 cup whipping cream, stiffly beaten

1. Finely grind cranberries. Add sugar and marshmallows. Mix well; cover and refrigerate overnight.
2. Before serving, stir in pecans, and gently fold in cream. (This is excellent with turkey.)

Tara's Pecan Pie

1 cup sugar
 1 cup light corn syrup
 1/3 cup butter
 4 eggs, beaten
 1 tsp. vanilla extract
 1/4 tsp. salt
 1 9-inch pastry shell, unbaked
 1 1/4 cups pecan halves

1. Combine sugar, corn syrup and butter in a medium saucepan.
2. Cook over low heat, stirring constantly until sugar dissolves and butter melts. Let cool slightly.
3. Add eggs, vanilla and salt to the mixture,



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stirring well. Pour filling into pastry shell; arrange pecan halves on top.

4. Bake at 325 F for 50 to 55 minutes.

Trish's Apple Pie

Shared with Tara by a co-worker in 1981.

6 medium apples, peeled and diced

1/2 cup sugar

1/2 to 1 tsp. cinnamon

2 9-inch Pillsbury piecrusts, unbaked

1/2 cup butter, softened

1/2 cup flour

1/2 cup brown sugar

1. Combine apples, sugar and cinnamon. Put mixture into 1 of the unbaked piecrusts.

2. Combine butter, flour and brown sugar; put over apples.

3. Lattice the top with strips of pie dough. Sprinkle with sugar and cinnamon. Bake at 425 F for 45 minutes.

Granny Loren's Divinity Candy

5 cups sugar

1 cup white Karo syrup

1 cup water

3 egg whites

2 tsp. vanilla

1 cup nuts (optional)



Super Sugar Cookies

1. Mix sugar, syrup and water in a saucepan. Cook on medium-high heat until mixture spins a thread or a ball forms in cold water.

2. Beat egg whites until stiff. Gradually add cooked syrup to beaten egg whites, stirring until all is added.

3. Add vanilla and nuts; mix thoroughly, stirring until mixture begins to thicken. Drop by spoonfuls onto waxed paper. Allow to harden.

Potato Salad

4 medium potatoes, peeled and cubed

1/4 tsp. salt

Pickle juice, to taste

Pickles, chopped, to taste

Mustard, to taste

3 Tbsp. Kraft Miracle Whip, add more for desired texture and taste

2 boiled eggs

Salt and pepper, to taste

1. Place potatoes in a pan with enough water to cover; add salt. Cook until fork tender. Drain well; pour pickle juice over potatoes.

2. Add chopped pickles, mustard and Miracle Whip; stir well.

3. Chop and add eggs. Stir in salt and pepper. Add more mustard and Miracle Whip as desired.

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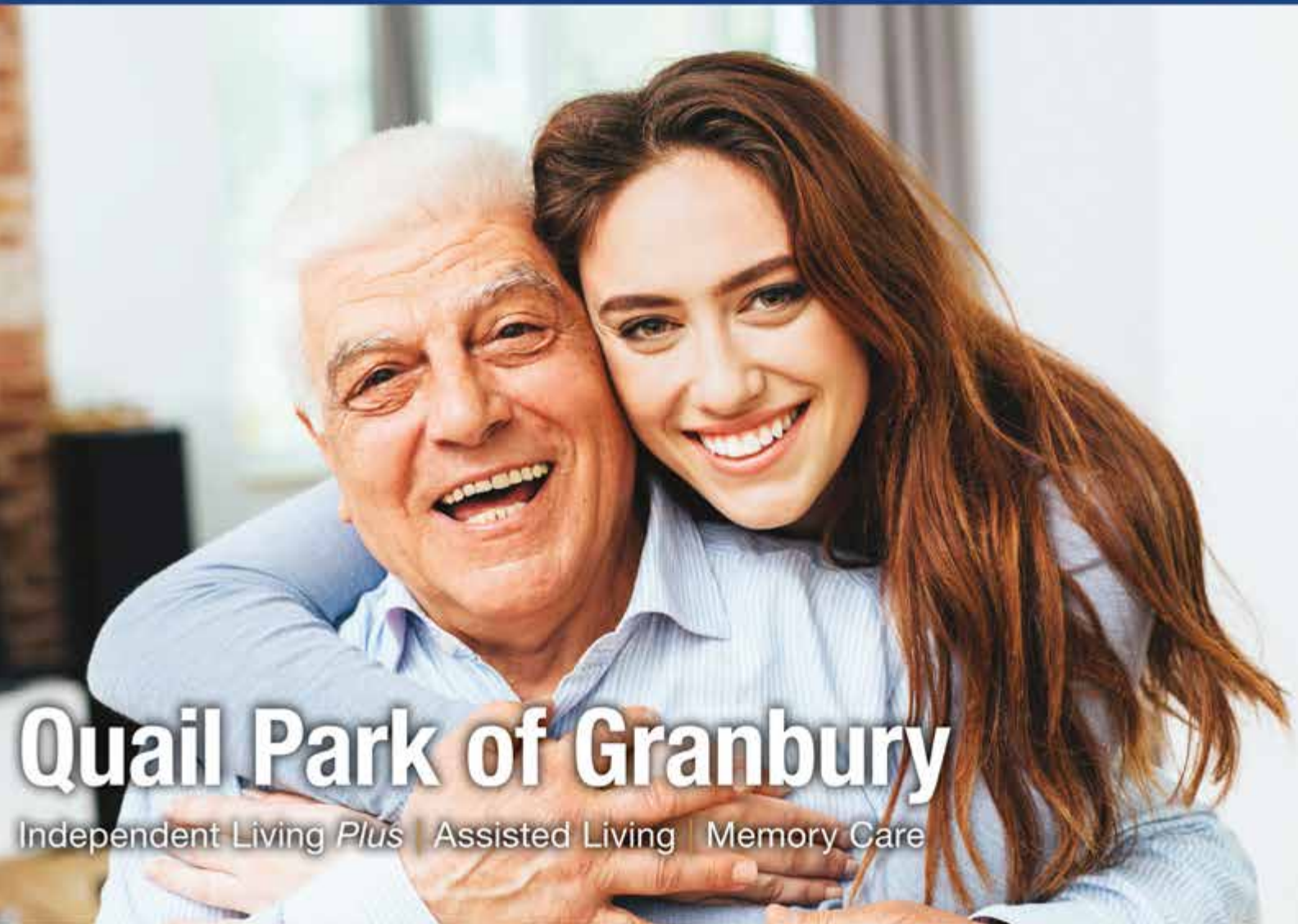
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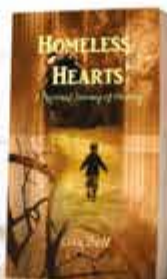
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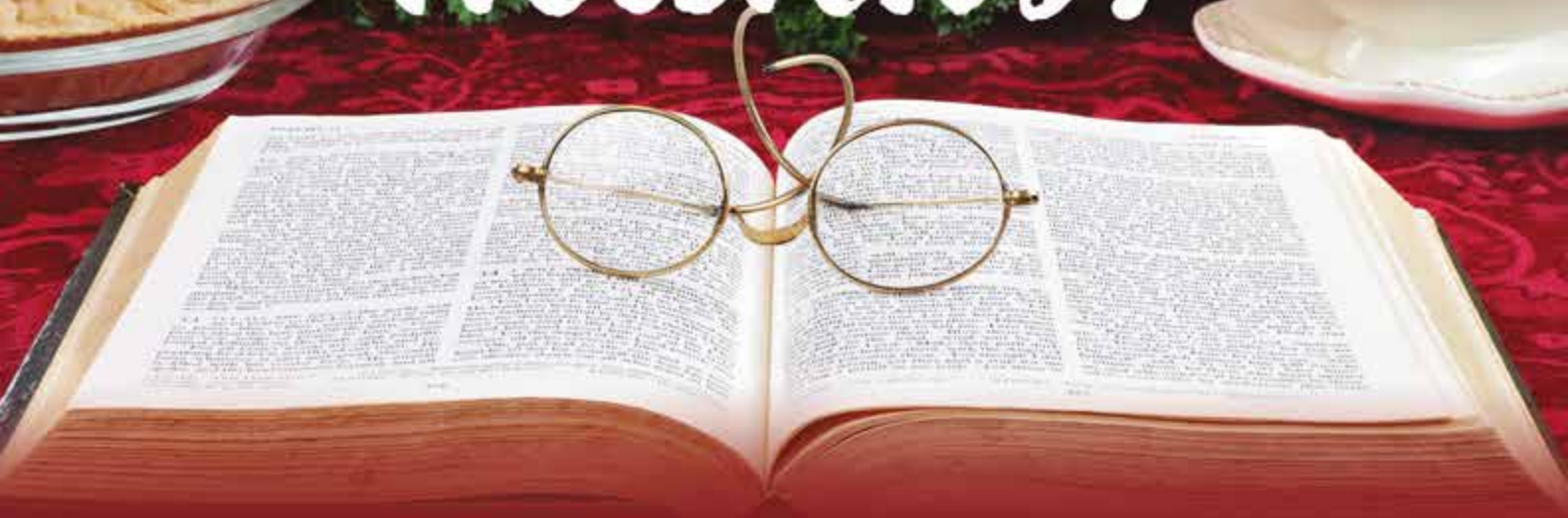
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Zoomed In: Jarett Foland

By Lisa Bell

Nationwide, about 34,000 students receive recognition for exceptional academic promise. Named a commended student, Jarett Foland entered the running by taking the 2018 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test. Jarett participates in many extracurricular activities at Weatherford Christian School. "WCS has provided many opportunities to better myself in my education and has prepared me for college through the rigorous work ethic they helped implement into my lifestyle," Jarrett said.

Excelling in sports and several advanced placement classes, he also serves as president of the student council and is a member of National Honor Society and Interact Club. He added, "After graduation, I hope to attend Baylor University and major in anatomy, so that I might be able to pursue a career in the medical field."



Nika Carter, winner of five State Fair tickets, sent her daughter, Shelby, to collect the prize from WeatherfordNOW's Steve Randle.



Wanda Darham volunteers at Central Christian Church's pumpkin patch.



The 2019 Weatherford College Rodeo Team always enjoys success.



Rick McDuff enjoys some alone time in a cooler shady spot.



Manuel Mesa enjoys an afternoon riding Pepe.



John and Diana Dirk spend some time perusing fall decor.



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TravelNOW Rocking Along

— By *Lori Altebaumer*

Known as “The Little Town That Rocks,” don’t be fooled by the nickname when visiting Black Mountain, North Carolina. Although rocking chairs abound in the picturesque downtown, there are plenty of good times and breathtaking beauty to keep visitors rolling through this quaint town nestled in the heart of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

First inhabited by the Cherokee Indians, Black Mountain has been attracting people seeking rest and refreshment since the early 1800s. Visitors today find this village still thriving in small-town American charm and friendliness. Voted one of the “Prettiest Small Towns in America to Vacation” by TripAdvisor, Black Mountain does not disappoint.

From the 18-hole golf course, three breweries, more than 35 restaurants and upscale gift shops, galleries and

Appalachian-style craft stores too numerous to mention, there’s plenty to see and do around town. Wander among the nostalgic shops lining the pristine streets, where pedestrians still have the right-of-way. Pause to relax in one of the rocking chairs, hand-painted by local artisans and scattered along the sidewalks, as you take in the beautiful landscaping on the town square.

Feeling refreshed and ready to explore? Take a short drive and hop on the Blue Ridge Parkway. This scenic highway winds through towering spruce trees and dense growths of mountain laurel. Roll the windows down and inhale the fresh air, but watch out for wildlife. The turkeys along the roadside seem calmly oblivious to the danger of passing cars on the often-narrow road.

From the forest, the highway ushers you around breathtaking expanses of mountain views and scenic overlooks. You’ll discover how the Blue Ridge Mountains got their name as you take in undulating layers of peaks, appearing deep blue like the choppy waves of the sea in the Appalachian atmosphere.

Opportunities for photography enthusiasts are endless.

Waterfalls, scenic overlooks and a stunning variety of wildflowers and native trees create the perfect occasion to capture the beauty and majesty of creation.

The abundance of hiking trails for all skill levels offer hours of exploration for those inclined to an outdoor challenge or adventure. Chimney Rock Park and the beautiful Lake Lure are just 30 miles east of Black Mountain. The park offers miles of high-rock hiking trails and waterfalls. It's also the location for filming the movie, *The Last of the Mohicans*. Another short drive takes you to the Nantahala River, where you can experience rafting over Class III whitewater at Nantahala Falls or spend your day fly-fishing.

Drive a few miles west and find yourself in historic Asheville, home of the Biltmore Estate. This 250-room mansion covers more than 4 acres of floor space. The estate itself takes a full day to explore, complete with a vineyard and winery, shopping and dining opportunities.

A tour through pastoral Maggie Valley holds treasures for the palate and the soul. Stop at the produce stands along the way for fresh peaches and sourwood honey as you let the lush, rolling landscape restore your heart to simpler days away from the hustle and bustle of modern living.

As the day ends, the slow pace of Black Mountain welcomes travelers back home. Replenishment for the adventuring soul comes in the form of a plate of barbecue from Phil's Bar-B-Que Pit. Order extra hushpuppies — you won't regret it!

After your meal, meander back downtown for a scoop (or more) of ice cream from Kilwin's Chocolates, Fudge & Ice Cream. Enjoy the sweet treat from one of the oversized rocking chairs, watching the sun sink below the horizon, tucking Black Mountain in for another peaceful evening. Recall your day's adventures as you peacefully rock your cares away, preparing for your next day's exploration of "The Little Town That Rocks." **NOW**

Editor's Note: For more information, visit www.exploreblackmountain.com.

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TACKLING TILES

— By Angel Morris

Like other aspects of home improvement, laying tile is not without challenges. If hiring a professional contractor is not within your budget, consider these general instructions before deciding if tile is a DIY within your skill set.

CHOOSING TILE

When choosing tile, homeowners must sort through different sizes, patterns, textures and colors. The room in which your tiles will be placed may impact those choices. For instance, areas which can frequently become wet — such as bathrooms and mudrooms — are not good spaces for glossy tiles, which may become slick.

Smaller spaces can be overwhelmed by large tiles, and small tiles can get lost in larger rooms. Tiles with busy patterns may not only be more challenging to install but can also compete with other decor of a room, such as wallpaper or paint color. Once you have purchased the tile that best suits your style and space, however, it's time to prep your surface.



SURFACE PREPARATION

Perhaps the most strenuous portion of this DIY is removing existing flooring. Old mortars from tile or adhesives from linoleum and carpet must be removed completely, followed by thorough cleaning of subflooring.

Subfloors also must be level and cracks in the concrete should be patched. Wood frames should be secured to joists and in dry, rigid condition, then covered with cement backer board, closely following backer board installation instructions.

Doorjambes may need to be trimmed to ensure tile will lay flat beneath them. Handsaws can do the trick, but jamb saws also can be rented from many tool centers. Wall molding also must be removed prior to tile installation.

CHOOSING A LAYOUT

Once floors are prepped, it's time to determine the layout of your tile. Professionals recommend first ensuring the space is square by measuring each wall's length and the length diagonally from corner to corner. If diagonals are the same measurement and opposite walls are the same length, your room is square. Snapping chalk lines is a trusted trick to provide tile-laying guides, and you may want to temporarily set out your tiles in a variety of patterns before moving on to the next step.



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SECURING TILE

You will need a drill with mixing paddle and a 5-gallon bucket in which to mix thin-set mortar according to package instructions. You only want to mix as much as you can use within about 15 minutes. A second bucket of clean water should be kept on hand, as well as a sponge or towels for keeping mixing tools clean.


With a notched trowel, spread mortar across a small area, then press tile in place along your guidelines. You typically will want to lay full tiles first, then go back in to cut and place small tiles around the border of your space.

Place plastic spacers and position your next tile along guidelines. Continue the process of spreading mortar, laying tile and spacers, all the while checking that your placement is level and aligned. Remember to start along the back of your space and work toward your exit so that you can keep from backing yourself into a corner or placing any weight on the tiles for at least 24 hours.

MAKING THE CUT

After waiting a day or more, you are ready to cut and place border tiles. Make sure you are wearing the proper safety gear for this step. This process requires you to measure from the nearest full tile to the wall, deducting the width of grout. That number is the size to which border tiles must be cut. Scoring cutters and wet saws can be rented for this purpose. Tile nippers or handheld grinders with diamond blades are also handy for curved and smaller cuts.


Watching online tutorials can assist in simplifying the cutting process. After cutting border tiles, you will repeat the process of spreading thin-set mortar, placing tiles and spacers until your borders are complete.



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HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



BORDER AND GROUT

When placing border tile, it is recommended you leave a 1/4-inch expansion gap. This ultimately will be covered with your molding or matching bullnose tile.

After waiting at least 24 more hours and making sure the joints between tiles are clean and dust-free, you are ready to remove the spacers and fill the joints with grout. Follow grout package instructions to prepare the type of grout you have selected to complement your tiles.

A tool known as a rubber float is used to apply grout, dragging it over joints at a recommended 45-degree angle. Every few minutes, you should remove excess grout from atop tiles with clean water and a sponge, again moving at an angle.

After allowing grout to harden per package-recommended times, you will need to apply a sealer. Sealer should be applied with a foam brush or applicator bottle. It typically is recommended that tiles be resealed every year or two.

Not only are there a number of tools and supplies required for laying tile, there are also variables that can impact how the job is done. For instance, there are ways to cover or lay tile without removing existing floors that one might consider.

After following all product instructions and exercising patience for the recommended drying times between steps, DIY tiling can be a money-saving and rewarding, albeit time-consuming, experience. **NOW**

Sources:

1. www.homedepot.com/c/how_to_lay_tile
2. www.todayshomeowner.com/how-to-lay-a-tile-floor/

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Be Creative When Withdrawing From Retirement Accounts

Like many people, you may spend decades putting money into your IRA and your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan. But eventually you will want to take this money out — if you must start withdrawing some of it. How can you make the best use of these funds?

To begin with, here's some background: When you turn 70 1/2, you need to start withdrawals — called required minimum distributions, or RMDs — from your traditional IRA and your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan, such as a 457(b) or 403(b). (A Roth IRA is not subject to these rules; you can essentially keep your account intact for as long as you'd like.) You can take more than the RMD, but if you don't take at least the minimum (which is based on your account balance and your life expectancy), you'll generally be taxed at 50 percent of the amount you should have taken — so don't forget these withdrawals.

Here, then, is the question: What should you do with the RMDs? If you need the entire amount to help support your lifestyle, there's no issue — you take the money and use it. But what if you don't need it all? Keeping in mind that the withdrawals are generally fully taxable at your personal income tax rate, are there some particularly smart ways in which you can use the money to help your family or, possibly, a charitable organization?

Here are a few suggestions:

- Help your grown children with their retirement accounts. Your grown children may not always be able to afford to “max out” on their IRAs. You might want to help them with any excess funds from your own retirement accounts. You can give \$15,000 per year, per recipient, without incurring any gift taxes — an amount far higher than the current annual IRA contribution limit of \$6,000 (or \$7,000 for individuals 50 or older).
- Help your grandchildren pay for college. You might want to contribute to an investment specifically designed to build assets for college. A financial professional can help you choose which investments might be most appropriate. Of course, if your grandchildren are already in college, you are free to simply write a check to the school to help cover tuition and other expenses.
- Help support a charitable organization. Due to recent changes in tax laws, many individuals now claim a standard deduction, rather than itemizing. As a result, there's less of an incentive, from a tax standpoint, for people to contribute to charitable organizations.
- But if you'd still like to support a charitable group and gain potential tax benefits, you might want to consider moving some, or all, of your required distributions from your IRA to a charity. You can transfer up to \$100,000 from your IRA in this type of qualified charitable distribution, thus meeting your RMD requirements without adding to your taxable income. Furthermore, this move might keep you in a lower tax bracket. (Before making this transfer, though, you will need to consult with your tax advisor.)

Your RMDs can contribute greatly to your retirement income, but, as we've seen, they can do even more than that, so use them wisely. **NOW**

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Gregg Davis is an Edward Jones representative based in Willow Park.



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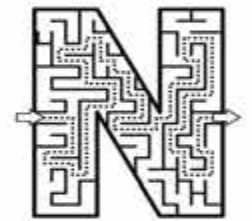
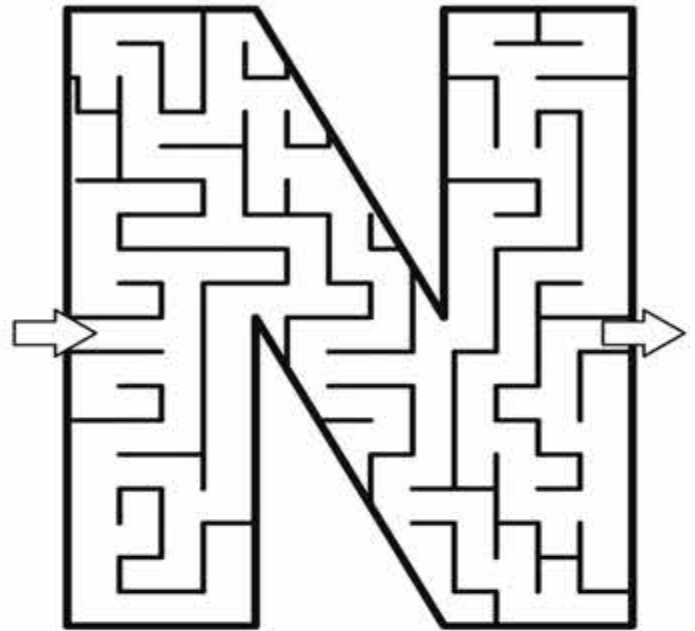
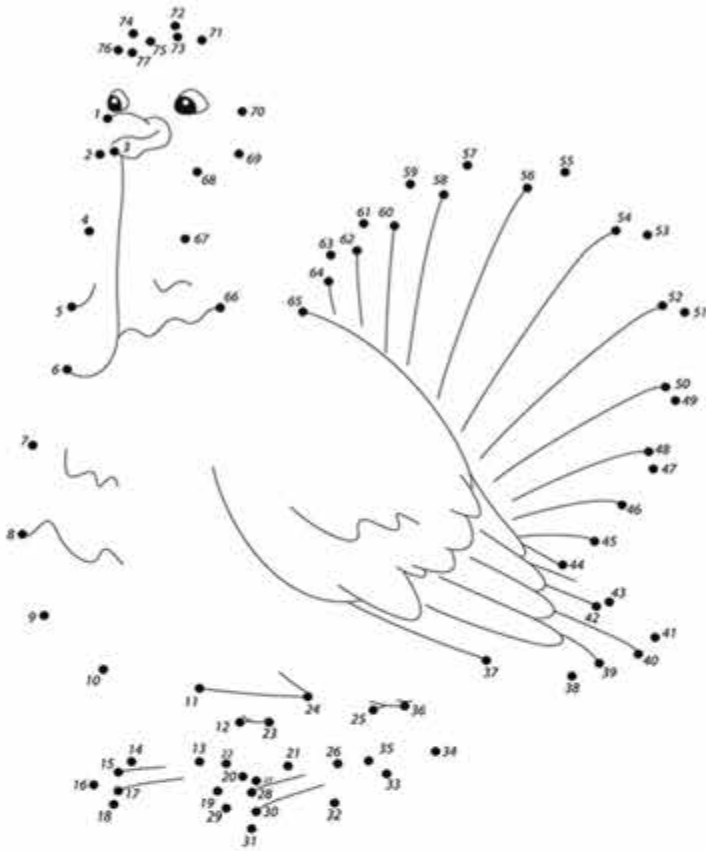
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Kids' Fun Page



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- Virginia Woolf

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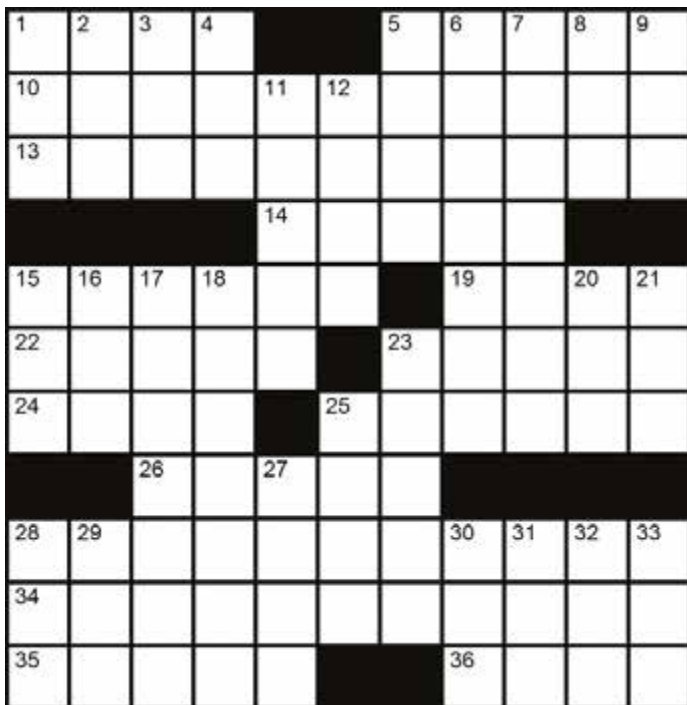
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Across


- 1 Biblical homicide victim
- 5 Iraqi port
- 10 Double-check
- 13 Forewarning
- 14 Watch
- 15 Fumed
- 19 Pervading air
- 22 "... but I could be wrong"
- 23 --- firma
- 24 Software trial version
- 25 What a parade does
- 26 Set of moral principles
- 28 Graveyard of Empires
- 34 Agree
- 35 Groups of animals
- 36 Round, red root vegetable

Down


- 1 Stage equipment
- 2 Ingot
- 3 Supplement
- 4 Moon lander
- 5 Place of confinement
- 6 Now and again
- 7 St. Elmo is their patron
- 8 City it can be blamed on?
- 9 Raggedy one
- 11 Lust after
- 12 Lady of "Idylls of the King"
- 15 Move up and down
- 16 Metal-bearing mineral
- 17 Natural number
- 18 Hated big-time
- 20 Globe
- 21 Eight hours, to most workers
- 23 Implied
- 25 Turpentine source
- 27 Fort --- State University, Kansas
- 28 Powdery residue
- 29 Sum charged
- 30 Weep
- 31 Golfer's peg
- 32 Affirmative vote
- 33 Open mesh fabric

Solutions on page 52

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Sudoku Puzzle

Easy

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| | 1 | | | | 3 | | | 2 |
| | 7 | 4 | | | 2 | | | 6 |

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Solutions on page 52

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11/6, 11/13, 11/20

Healthier Carbs:

Presented by the Texas AgriLife Extension, learn about how carbohydrates relate to healthy eating. Food tastings and prizes provided. 2:00-3:00 p.m., Weatherford Public Library, For more information, visit www.weatherfordtx.gov/142/Library.

11/9

Infinite Journey:

Weatherford concert series presents this high-energy tribute band focused on the overall sound of the famous group, Journey. Free concert. Food vendors on-site. 7:00-9:00 p.m., Heritage Park Amphitheater. (817) 598-4124 or www.experienceweatherford.com/events/2019/infinite-journey.

Bell Ringers' Ball:

For the first time in 25 years, organizers are planning a gala to benefit Weatherford College and its students while celebrating the sesquicentennial year. Tickets: \$150/person or \$1,500 table of 10. Social hour: 6:00 p.m.; Dinner: 7:00 p.m., Ridglea Country Club, 3699 Bernie Ave., Fort Worth 76116. WC Institutional Advancement Office. For more information, call (817) 598-6273 or www.WC150.com.

11/12

Home for the Holidays:

Holiday ideas and presentations with great ideas. Tickets include lunch and recipes. \$12. 10:09

a.m.-1:30 p.m., Coutts United Methodist Church, 802 N. Elm. Information and registration, (817) 598-6168.

11/16

Coyote Chase & Family Picnic:

26th Annual 5K/1-mile run/walk benefits student scholarships. Following the race hang out on campus for a picnic. 9:00 a.m., 225 College Park Dr. www.wc.edu/chaserace.

11/17

Parker County Aggie Moms Club:

2:00 p.m., Gardens of Weatherford Clubhouse, 300 Garden Lane. Contact junelancarte@gmail.com.

11/24

Water Volleyball Tournament:

Lucky Duck's tournament raises money for scholarships to teach children water safety. Noon-8:00 p.m., 1110 E. Bankhead Dr. (817) 599-7946 or www.theswimlessonpeople.com.

12/6-12/22

Greater Tuna:

Live performance of a traditional play. **Friday and Saturday:** 8:00 p.m.; **Sunday:** 2:00 p.m., Theatre Off The Square, 114 N. Denton. Tickets available, (817) 341-8687 or www.theatreoffthesquare.org.

Mondays

Warriors at Ease Yoga:

Veterans supported with science-based and trauma-sensitive exercises. 1:30 p.m., Circle Y Yoga Ranch, 1303 Russell Bend Rd. (817) 609-6454.

First Mondays

Weatherford First Monday Trade Days:

Event held on *Friday-Sunday prior to the first Monday*. One of the oldest open-air markets in Texas steeped in tradition and located in the heart of the historical district. Old traditions with a new look, attractions and fun activities. 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., 200 Santa Fe Dr. rhamilton@weatherfordtx.gov or (817) 598-4359.

Fourth Mondays

Weatherford Art Association Meeting:

Artist of the month contest followed by instruction in different media. Annual dues: \$40/individual; \$60/family; \$20/student. 6:00 p.m., Barlow Hall, All Saints Anglican Church, 125 S. Waco. www.weatherfordart.org.

Tuesdays

Storytime at the Doss:

Free educational program. 10:30 a.m., Doss Heritage and Cultural Center, 1400 Texas Dr. For more details, call (817) 599-6168 or www.dosscenter.org.

Third Tuesdays

Parker County Cruisers:

The group for those interested in classic cars and specialty vehicles. 6:30 p.m., Mount Pleasant School, 213 Raymond George Way. (817) 994-0074.

First Wednesdays

Zonta of Parker County:

Zonta is an International organization empowering women worldwide. Guests are always welcome. 11:30 a.m., North Side Baptist Church, Room 118. Brenda, (817) 771-9713.

Second Wednesdays

The Twentieth Century Club:

Women's volunteer organization meets each month except in **July and August**. Potluck lunch followed by a short program and business meeting. Noon, 321 S. Main St. Karren Lucas, (817) 613-6697.

First and Third Thursdays

Connect Camp for Adults With Dementia:

Offers a respite for caregivers with physical and cognitive exercises and social interaction for "camper." Donation-based. Registration required. 12:30-2:30 p.m., Clubhouse behind St. Stephen Catholic Church, 1812 Bethel Rd. (817) 609-6454.



11/30

Celebration of Lights:

Features live music, vendors, face-painting, photos with Santa, carriage and pony rides, snow play area, train rides, bounce houses and slides and, of course, the annual community tree lighting. 5:00 p.m., Historic Weatherford Downtown area.

www.experienceweatherford.com/events/2019/7th-annual-celebration-of-lights.

Second Thursdays

Gardeners' Club of Parker County:

Each meeting features a garden-related speaker, followed by refreshments and a short meeting. 10:00 a.m., St. Francis Church, 117 Ranch House Road, Willow Park. (817) 919-6280.

Third Thursdays

Quilter's Guild of Parker County:

Quilters of all levels are welcome. 6:30 p.m., North Side Baptist Church, 910 N. Main St. For more

information, call Mary Williams at (940) 682-4631, www.quiltersguildofparkercounty.org.

Second Fridays

Living Waters Writers:

Christian writing group for encouragement and feedback. Free open group. 2:00-4:00 p.m., Hood County Library, Granbury. Lisa (817) 269-9066 or LisaBell@bylisabell.com.

Spring Creek Musical:

Old time musical with bluegrass, gospel and country music. Concession stand available with all proceeds going toward expenses. Free and open to the public.

6:00 p.m., 100 Spring Creek Rd. Spring Creek Musical on FB.

Third Fridays

Downtown Night Out:

Look for the blue DNO flag outside of participating merchants and restaurants. Support local small businesses. 4:00 p.m., Historic Downtown Weatherford.

Fourth Fridays

All-you-can-eat catfish:

Join the VFW for a \$12 dinner. 5:30-7:30 p.m., Granbury VFW Post 7835, 3670 US-377, Granbury. (817) 776-2965.

Second Saturdays

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chicken breast: \$10.

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Crossword - Sudoku Solutions

| | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|---|---|----|---|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| 1 | A | B | E | L | | 5 | B | A | S | R | A |
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| 34 | S | E | E | E | Y | E | T | O | E | E | E |
| 35 | H | E | R | D | S | | | 36 | B | E | E |

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